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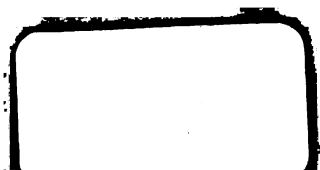
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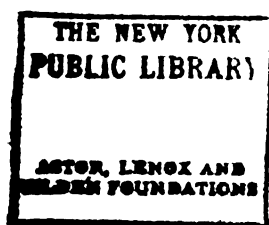














**Mt. Pico Killington and Shrewsbury Peak**

# HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

OF

# NEW ENGLAND.

VERMONT.

BY

A. J. COOLIDGE AND J. B. MANSFIELD.

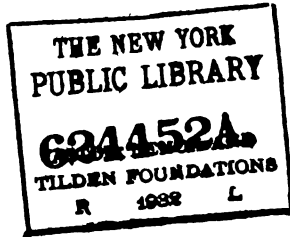
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## PREFACE.

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THE first volume of the History and Description of New England, embracing the States of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, has already been issued from the press. In bringing out the present volume, relating to Vermont alone, the authors would by no means underrate the importance of presenting the work, as far as possible, in its most compact form, that the mutual relation and dependence, each upon the other, of the several States, and the strong ties of brotherhood between their respective citizens, may be better understood and more sensibly felt by turning the leaves of their history and gathering evidence of their material prosperity from one and the same volume. But they can perceive no good reason why the desires of many who either prefer the whole work in separate States, or can only afford to present themselves with the volume treating of their own State, should not be gratified in the amplest manner.

To the matter contained in the larger volume, has been added a list of the sons of Vermont, resident in Boston and vicinity, with their various occupations, and their places of residence or business, which much enhances the value of the work among business men, especially to those engaged in trade. It also contains biographical notices of distinguished and useful men, and much other information of that practical character which it is believed will enable it to demand and receive the public approval. Vermont asks no more of her sons, at home or abroad, than that they should be true to the inspiration of their native hills in industry, practical economy, benevolence, patriotism, and filial piety; or — to use more comprehensive terms — in religion and common sense.

It will be seen that the chapters and paging of the larger work are preserved.



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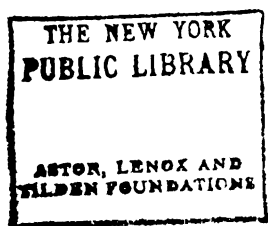
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## CHAPTER VIII.

### VERMONT—OUTLINES OF ITS HISTORY.

VERMONT is situated between the parallels of  $42^{\circ} 44'$  and  $45^{\circ}$ , north latitude, and between the meridians of  $71^{\circ} 25'$  and  $73^{\circ} 26'$  of longitude west from Greenwich. It is bounded on the north by Canada East; on the south by Massachusetts; on the east by New Hampshire; and on the west partly by New York and partly by Lake Champlain, the line following the deepest channel of the lake; containing an area of  $9,056\frac{1}{2}$  square miles, or 5,795,960 acres.

The first European explorers that penetrated the mountain fastnesses of this state were three Frenchmen—Champlain, Dupont, and Chauvin—who had been left, by De Monts, at St. Croix, for the purpose of exploring the country preparatory to its colonization,<sup>1</sup> upon which hazardous enterprise they entered soon after the return of De Monts to France. For the purpose of facilitating their labors, the friendship of the Algonquins was gained, and a party of them hired to pilot the explorers through the wilds of the hostile Iroquois,—the Frenchmen promising the former, as compensation, assistance in their wars with the latter nation. They followed the old war path of the Algonquins, which led them down the eastern margin of the lake that now bears the name of its discoverer and the leader of the expedition—Champlain. This discovery and partial exploration were made as early as 1609; but it is quite certain, that, after this event, more than a century elapsed before any portion of the territory of Vermont became the residence of civilized inhabitants. During the seventeenth century, and for many years afterwards, it was exclusively a theatre of war, whereon the Algonquin tribes of New England and Canada on the one side, and the powerful Iroquois on the other, were wont to mingle in deadly

<sup>1</sup> See ante, p. 10.

conflict. A bitter feud always subsisted between these two nations, and terminated only with their extinction. They delighted in scenes of havoc and cruelty of the most appalling character, and used every occasion to gratify their savage propensity.

In 1664, the Dutch settlement of New Netherlands was surrendered to the English, and its name changed to New York; at which time the territory of Vermont was an unbroken wilderness, not only traversed by the war and hunting parties of the Mohawks and Algonquins, but—being situated nearly equidistant from the French on the one hand, and the English on the other, either across the mountains or by way of Lake Champlain—also constantly exposed to the depredations of the subjects of these two nations. The settlement of it was therefore shunned by both as being dangerous and impracticable; and it remained, until the fall of Canada in 1760, uninhabited, except by the military garrisons of these jealous nations, who kept sleepless watch upon each other's movements. The first civilized establishment within the limits of Vermont was made in 1724, by the erection of Fort Dummer (then supposed to be within Massachusetts), in the southeast corner of the present town of Brattleborough. Though this could be considered little, if any thing, more than a military occupation, it was in reality the precursor of its settlement. Expeditions were detailed from this fort, and from Charlestown, N. H., against the French; and the men who composed them, with an eye to the future, noticed the fertility of the lands between the Connecticut river and Lake Champlain, and treasured their knowledge till after years, when peace might recall them from their warlike pursuits to the more pleasant and profitable one of husbandry. As soon as peace was declared, swarms of adventurers began to immigrate from year to year; and so great was this tide of immigration, that, between the years 1760 and 1768, no less than 138 townships had been granted in this section of country by the state of New Hampshire, extending far up the Connecticut river and westerly to Lake Champlain.

These grants had been made by the authority of New Hampshire, to which the territory was supposed rightfully to belong. Benning Wentworth was governor, and was acquiring a princely fortune by the terms on which he made these grants to settlers; for, besides the fees and other emoluments that pertained to his office, he reserved to himself five hundred acres of land in each township. The enormous wealth thus rapidly accruing to the governor of New Hampshire excited the cupidity of the government of New York to such a degree that they determined to make an effort to take the territory of Vermont within their jurisdic-

tion.<sup>1</sup> Their idea was to revive old patents long buried in obscurity, placing such construction upon them as suited the necessities of the case, and to present them so adroitly as to deceive the king and council into granting a decree in favor of their claim. Failing in this, other plausible pretexts were to be set up; but, in the event of the unsuccessful termination of all their insidious manœuvring, force was to be the final resort. The lieutenant-governor of New York disclosed his purposes on the 28th of December, 1763, by issuing a proclamation, in which he recited the grants made by Charles II. to the Duke of York in 1664 and 1674 (almost a century previous), which embraced, besides other lands, all those from the west side of Connecticut river to the east side of Delaware bay. Upon this antiquated grant he founded his claim to jurisdiction over the present state of Vermont; and, under its real or pretended authority, he ordered the sheriff of the county of Albany to make returns of the names of all persons who had taken possession of lands on the west side of the Connecticut under titles derived from the government of New Hampshire.

To prevent the effect this proclamation was calculated to produce, the governor of New Hampshire, about two months subsequently, March 13, 1764, issued a counter proclamation, in which he declared the grant to the Duke of York obsolete, and maintained the claim of New Hampshire; assuring the settlers, that, in the event of a change in the jurisdiction of the grants, it would be a matter of small moment to them, as it could not affect the validity of their titles. The authorities of New York, having little faith in the efficacy of the patent to the Duke of York, and fearful lest the golden prize they so much coveted might be forever placed beyond their reach by some act of the king and council, resolved — however reprehensible the means they adopted might appear in the eyes of the world — to make such a bold and specious stroke of policy as would bring conviction to the minds of the home government, and secure to themselves the darling object of their ambition. Accordingly, a spurious petition to the crown was gotten up, purporting to be signed by a great number of the settlers on

<sup>1</sup> It ought perhaps to be remarked at the outset, in giving an account of the controversy between New York and the grants, that the cupidity of officials was, at first, no doubt, a leading motive to the action of the authorities of the province of New York. It would, however, be unjust to charge the *province* with *their* wrongful acts; and when the government of New York had assumed a popular form, both parties had become too much excited to be capable of viewing the question in a spirit of justice and candor. The difficulties which the government of New York met in finding a sufficient number of men to execute its arbitrary decrees within the territory of the grants, show how little the *people* of New York entered into the feelings and purposes of the rulers.

the New Hampshire grants, representing that it would be for their advantage to be annexed to the colony of New York. In consequence of this fraudulent petition urged by New York, and, too, without remonstrance on the part of New Hampshire, and *not by virtue of any previous grant*, "his Majesty" ordered, on the 20th of July, 1764, that the western bank of the Connecticut river, from where it enters the province of Massachusetts, as far north as the forty-fifth degree of latitude, should be the boundary line between the provinces of New York and New Hampshire. When this decision of the crown was received by the people on the grants, their surprise may well be imagined; but it caused no alarm, as they regarded it simply as a change of jurisdiction, and accordingly submitted,—the thought never entering their minds that this change could, in any possible way, affect the titles to their lands. The governor of New Hampshire at first protested against this order of the king; but was at length induced to abandon the contest, and issued a proclamation recommending to the proprietors and settlers due obedience to the authority and laws of the colony of New York.

The controversy now began to wear an ominous aspect. New Hampshire having retired from the contest, New York, in the pride of her power and exulting in the triumph of her injustice, imagined that she could easily subjugate the settlers, over whom her colonial jurisdiction had been extended, and supposed that every arbitrary mandate from her would be respectfully, if not cheerfully, obeyed. Enactment succeeded enactment from her haughty and imperious assembly, wresting from the settlers right after right and privilege after privilege, looking, in the end, to an abject subjugation. She cared not how much the settlers were exasperated by her acts: she was powerful, they were weak, was the argument; and, even should opposition be manifested by her adopted children, she relied confidently upon the pliant rod of her courts to bring the refractory ones into subjection; but this failing, she felt quite sure that one blow from the military arm would annihilate every element of discord. But as "pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall," so New York, in every step of her career, met with the most decided failure. The home government having learned the condition of affairs, and probably apprehensive of the troubles in which it might become involved by the rash policy of New York, warned her to desist upon pain of the king's highest displeasure. But New York, in her greed for the spoils, overlooked or purposely paid no attention to the king's warning. The settlers petitioned the government of New Hampshire to intercede with the crown in their behalf; and, in fact, used all proper available means to extricate

themselves from the rapacity of the New York government which, like the serpent after having secured its prey, was winding coil after coil around them, and would, if possible, finally crush them in its mighty folds; but no help came. They were not dismayed, however, though their circumstances were exceedingly trying; but resolved to act on the defensive, and with a manly courage protect their homes. About this time, Ethan Allen, afterwards so distinguished, entered upon the arena of public life, and undertook the defence of the settlers. He soon learned, however, that the courts of New York were as corrupt and venal as the government. Partisan judges and packed juries held the scales of justice with such an unequal hand as to make them preponderate in favor of New York, so that the settlers on the grants invariably lost every case, no matter how overwhelming the evidence on their side. New York, when she had estimated the weakness of the settlers in point of numbers, as well as in tact, skill, and courage, had reckoned without her host. It is true, they were numerically few; but courage and physical prowess, tact in the management of a great struggle, and indomitable energy in following it out to a successful issue, New York afterwards learned, to her cost, were elementary characteristics of the people.<sup>1</sup> Allen returned from court, not dispirited, but, seeing no possible chance of adjustment, rather strengthened for the conflict. He called to his council the daring and the brave from every part of the grants. Seth Warner, Remember Baker, Robert Cochran, Gideon Warner, and other true spirits, gathered around him; and, notwithstanding the people were already goaded to desperation, Allen, after his unsuccessful efforts with the New York courts, fanned the flame of excitement and increased the tumult of popular indignation. New York sent over her officials to execute her laws; but no sooner had they crossed the line and entered the grants than they were seized by the populace, stripped, tied to a tree, and whipped without mercy. The scions of the blue beech were used on these occasions, and the potency of these flagellations was manifest, as no "Yorker," after once experiencing them, ever had the temerity again to cross the line on official business.<sup>2</sup> In May, 1772, New York made overtures of peace.

<sup>1</sup> This "struggle was not merely about the price of land, but a conflict between New England and New York *principles* — those of the Puritan and the Patroon; — between our township system, with local elections and taxes, and New York centralization." — *Address before the Vermont Historical and Antiquarian Society*, by James Davie Butler, p 4

<sup>2</sup> The application of this punishment subsequently acquired the name of the "beech seal," from a remark made by Ethan Allen to one Hough, a New York official, who had received a well merited chastisement by this process. Hough asked for a certificate to



Having gained nothing thus far, she seemed desirous of covering a retreat by changing her tactics and resorting to diplomatic intrigue. Some preliminary arrangements towards pacification were made by Governor Tryon on the part of New York, and a commission on the part of Vermont; but the attempt proved in the end abortive, and seemed only to have widened the breach and increased the animosity between the contestants.

The discomfited party, rendered desperate by repeated failure, but desiring to carry out their reprehensible proceedings under the cloak of law, on the 9th of March, 1774, passed a statute, acknowledged to be the most threatening and despotic ever issued by a legislature in North America. This act directed the governor to advertise the names of the rebel leaders in the *New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury*, commanding them to surrender themselves within thirty days from the publication thereof, under the penalty of being convicted of felony and of suffering death without benefit of clergy.<sup>1</sup> These were Ethan Allen, Seth Warner, Remember Baker, Robert Cochran, Peleg Sunderland, Silvanus Brown, James Breakenridge, and John Smith. A bounty of £150 was offered for the apprehension of Allen, and £50 for each of the others. But these patriots, determined not to be outdone by their enemies, issued a proclamation offering £5 for the apprehension of the attorney-general of New York, payable on his delivery to any officer of the Green Mountain Boys. This violent and protracted controversy was suddenly dropped, not settled, by reason of the portentous events preceding the Revolution. By common consent, local feuds were buried for a while in oblivion, that all classes of people might lend their best energies to that struggle.

In January, 1776, a convention assembled at Dorset, and drafted a petition for admission into the confederacy, which was soon after sent to the provincial congress at Philadelphia, but finally withdrawn, on account of the preponderating influence which was brought against it by New York. Congress was evidently desirous of standing aloof from the controversy, and leaving it to the settlement of the parties themselves; but, in the event of a decision being forced upon them, it was manifest that they would rather sacrifice Vermont than create a rupture with New York. Had Vermont possessed a colonial existence, under a charter from the crown, like the other colonies, the case would have

secured him safe passage through the grants, and Allen, on handing it to him, said that it, "together with the receipt on his back, would, no doubt, be admitted as legal evidence before the supreme court of New York, where the sign manual of His Excellency Governor Wentworth with the great seal of the province of New Hampshire would not."

<sup>1</sup> Slade's *Vermont State Papers*, p. 37, 48.

been materially altered. Early in the following year, 1777, which was the most memorable and incomparably the most trying and gloomy, as well as the most glorious, of her history, Vermont declared her independence, and, in July of the same year, drafted her constitution, again demanding admission into the confederacy, which, it was confidently expected, would be acceded to, and an end thus be put to the harassing imbroglio with New York. But disappointment awaited them,—a disappointment the pain and mortification of which could only be exceeded by the impolicy and injustice of the neglect which had occasioned it. Congress refused to acknowledge the rights of Vermont, notwithstanding her agents, by pointing out the critical condition of the state and its exposure to the main force of the enemy in Canada, conclusively proved the necessity of immediate action in the premises. This vacillating policy was rapidly dissipating from the minds of the people all faith in the virtue and integrity of that body; still, that it might be patent to the world that Vermont was not at fault, the assembly appointed agents with full powers to complete arrangements for the admission of the state into the Union. Meanwhile, New York was improving the time to influence congress to recognize her claim to a part of the territory, on which condition she would agree to Vermont's admission. But the people of the latter state had gone too far to accede to such a proposal: they had established their government on too firm a basis to be moved from their purpose, either by the devices of New York or the tergiversations of congress.

Finding herself neglected on every hand, and, as it were, a foundling to whom her parent refused protection, she resolved to maintain the integrity of her government isolated from the confederation; and, amid the stormy elements then gathering around the political horizon of the country, to unfurl her flag of freedom, and, in the majesty of her independence, command that justice for which she had hitherto petitioned in vain. The British generals in America had not remained passive spectators of the cavalier treatment which Vermont had received at the hands of those with whom she earnestly desired to coöperate; and were anxious to detach her from the American cause, and convert the territory into a British province. The first intimation which Vermont received of this fact was in July, 1780, when a letter, offering the protection of England to the rejected state, was received by Ethan Allen from Colonel Beverly Robinson (a British officer), which was handed him in the streets of Arlington, by an English soldier disguised as an American farmer. When all ideas of the future recognition of the claims of Vermont by the United States had been

wellnigh dispelled from the minds of the people,—of which circumstance the British were fully apprised,—these overtures were renewed in more urgent and flattering terms than before, and were received by the leading men of Vermont with some degree of attention. Though this policy of thus listening to the English has been condemned by some writers in the most unmeasured terms, it must be admitted, that, considering the circumstances in which the people of Vermont were placed, they adopted a course both wise and just. Rejected by congress on one side, threatened with dismemberment on another, and exposed to the invasion of a powerful army on a third, there was but one course for them to pursue to save the independence of their state, which had ever been to them an object of earnest solicitude, and to preserve inviolate the rights of which, they had more than once run the hazard of life. While they hated the dominion of England much, they hated that of New York more; and, therefore, with that diplomatic shrewdness which had characterized their previous proceedings, they did not entirely despair of a union with the United States, nor actually embrace the overtures of the British. The motives of congress with regard to New York were self-protection; those of Vermont in respect to England were the same,—she having, by her artful policy, averted invasion for three years, not only from her own borders, but from those of the United States. Those therefore that condemn her statesmen for the course they pursued in this intrigue, do, wittingly or unwittingly, dishonor the memory of men who were among the most indomitable enemies of oppression and tyranny, and the most ardent and active friends of rational liberty whom this or any other country has produced. That either Ethan or Ira Allen or Thomas Chittenden, or either of the Fays or Robinsons, or indeed any of the leading men of Vermont, previously to her admission into the Union, ever seriously contemplated an alliance with Great Britain, is, now that the facts are before us, too preposterous for a moment's belief; especially, as it is well known that the correspondence was from time to time communicated to General Washington by Allen and his friends.

Among the early statesmen of Vermont, few probably watched the course of events with more sagacity and vigilance, or felt a more intense solicitude for the state, than Governor Chittenden. After the resolution of congress of August 20, 1781, prescribing the boundaries under which it would admit Vermont, he received a verbal message from General Washington inquiring what were the real designs, wishes, and intentions of the people of Vermont;—whether they would be satisfied with the independence proposed in said resolution, or seriously thought of

joining the enemy and becoming a British province. The correspondence<sup>1</sup> which passed between them on this subject is thought to have made it more evident that Vermont had no real disposition for a British alliance.

On the conclusion of peace, congress was in a measure relieved from its embarrassments with regard to Vermont, and the latter was released, in a great degree, from her fears, the British army upon her northern frontier, whose efforts had been so long paralyzed by her diplomacy, having been withdrawn. The political institutions of Vermont had been gradually maturing, and the organization of her government had assumed a regularity and efficiency which commanded the obedience and respect of the great body of the citizens; hence she cared very little what congress might do, feeling fully confident of her ability to manage her own affairs. She was not unmindful of the general state of the country. The United States were without a currency, and their credit gone; while an immense debt had been contracted in the prosecution of the war. As long, therefore, as Vermont remained a separate government, she could not be called upon to share the burdens thus accumulated and accumulating; hence she almost ceased to regard her admission into the Union as an event to be desired, or as calculated to better her condition. In 1790, New York again revived the old controversy; but with a desire for its settlement. She proposed to Vermont, that, upon the payment of \$30,000, she would relinquish all claims to lands in, or jurisdiction over, the state, which terms Vermont accepted and complied with. Thus terminated one of the bitterest feuds in the annals of our country,—one which had been nourished for the period of twenty-six years. On the 4th of March, 1791, all obstacles being now removed, Vermont was admitted, as the fourteenth state, into the Union.

In reviewing this dispute, although it must be admitted that the Green Mountain Boys committed many rude and lawless acts, their sturdy resistance can but be admired. Being the oppressed party, the wisdom and courage with which they contended against superior power,

<sup>1</sup> Governor Chittenden wrote a very unequivocal and decisive answer to General Washington—of which unfortunately no copy is now to be found—on the 14th of November, in which he said that no people on the continent were more attached to the cause of America than the people of Vermont; but that they would sooner join the British in Canada than submit to the government of New York; that, driven to desperation by the injustice of those who should have been her friends, Vermont was now obliged to adopt policy in the room of power. He ascribed the late resolution of congress, not to the influence of friends, but the power of enemies, believing that Lord Germain's letter had procured that which the public virtue of the people could not obtain.

and the firm adherence which they maintained, under their ungracious treatment, to the cause of freedom and their common country, are deserving of warm commendation. Nor ought we to overlook the importance of the result to the general interest of the Northern states, which the admission of Vermont strengthened, by adding two members to the representation of those states in the United States senate. It moreover gave to the people of Vermont a feeling of political independence and responsibility, which, in the condition of remote counties of a great state, they would never have acquired in their separate existence, and which has often made itself felt in a way very advantageous to the credit and the common good of the New England states, and, indeed, the whole Union. The desirableness of this relation was, no doubt, secretly felt by the people of Vermont, although cold treatment from congress for a time produced, naturally enough, an affectation of indifference; while to her sister states the relation seemed no less necessary, in securing the coöperation of a people on the frontier who had become renowned for their valor and patriotism.

Notwithstanding the unfavorable and embarrassing position that the people of Vermont occupied during the Revolutionary struggle, they early manifested their willingness to take an active part in its prosecution; for, four weeks previous to the battle of Lexington, they assured New Hampshire and Massachusetts of their readiness to coöperate with those states.<sup>1</sup> The importance of capturing Ticonderoga and Crown Point was not lost sight of by the Green Mountain Boys; and, before the arrival of Benedict Arnold with his men from Connecticut, Ethan Allen, Seth Warner, and their hardy followers, were deliberating upon a project to surprise those fortresses. When, therefore, Arnold came to Bennington, he found men ready for his purpose, though they refused to act under his command, preferring that of their old leaders. On the 10th of May, 1775, before daybreak, Colonel Allen, by adroitness and stratagem, landed with eighty-three men upon the shore at Ticonderoga, entered the fort, disarmed the sentinels, and, before the commander was dressed, appeared before him, and demanded the surrender of the fort. "By what authority?" asked the disconcerted and astonished officer. "I demand it," said Allen, "in the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress." Captain De Laplace was ignorant of Allen's authority, and of the commencement of hostilities at Lexington, but had no other choice than to accede, and he did so. Colonel Seth Warner and his party, on the same day, captured Crown Point, while another party took possession of Skenes-

<sup>1</sup> Slade's Vermont State Papers, p. 59.

borough, now Whitehall, N. Y. This victory was unimportant so far as related to the prisoners of war, there being not more than eighty men in the two garrisons; but a large number of cannon were captured, and considerable munitions of war, which latter did good service at the siege of Boston and elsewhere; and the importance of the fortresses as the key alike to New England and Canada was not to be overlooked. To the Vermonters belongs most of the glory of these achievements, — the result of the first offensive operations in the Revolution, — performed with great daring, and without the aid of a single bayonet.

On the invasion of Canada under Montgomery, a regiment of Green Mountain Boys, commanded by Colonel Seth Warner, participated in the expedition. Colonel Ethan Allen was also engaged in these operations, and commanded one of the detachments sent into the country to pacify and make terms with the Canadians. In a night attack projected against Montreal, Allen took a prominent part, the result of which was that he and thirty-eight of his men were taken prisoners, while fifteen were killed and several wounded. Colonel Allen, in this attack, was to be assisted by Major Brown; but that officer failing to appear, Allen, with only one hundred men, assaulted the town, and was defeated as above stated, not, however, without making a desperate resistance.<sup>1</sup> Seth Warner with his regiment did good service in this Canada expedition. When General Carlton, the British commander in Canada, attempted to join Colonel McLean and his Highlanders, at the junction of the Sorel and St. Lawrence, in October, 1775, Colonel Warner intercepted him, opening such a well-directed fire that the general and his men were obliged to retreat, his example being soon after followed by Colonel McLean, who left his position unoccupied. This was immediately taken possession of by Warner, who erected batteries, and took such other means of offence as effectually commanded the St. Lawrence, and prevented any possibility of escape for vessels from Montreal. The advantage thus gained by Colonel Warner led to the capitulation, on the 3d of November, of the garrison at St. John's. In most of the offensive operations of the campaign against Canada, the Green Mountain Boys took a prominent part; and in the projected attack on Quebec a large number of men, under Warner, were present, having marched there in the depth of winter, and under many disadvantages; and but for the presence of whom, the retreat from Canada must have been even more disastrous.

The Americans were not pursued beyond the Sorel, the enemy being

<sup>1</sup> Allen and his men were sent to England in irons, General Carlton refusing to acknowledge them as prisoners of war, claiming that they were banditti, as Allen was not a commissioned officer.

destitute of a naval armament, with which, however, they were soon supplied from England. The Americans were not idle in the interim, and succeeded, notwithstanding many obstacles, in refitting, building, and equipping fifteen vessels. The British force may be safely set down as double that of the Americans both in men and vessels, while the former had still another advantage in the heavier metal of their guns. General Arnold, whose nautical experience made his services all the more important in this sudden transition to naval warfare, was placed in command of the American force, most of the vessels being managed by officers of the army. On the 11th of October the battle was commenced upon Lake Champlain by the British, who were so confident of success that they came into the engagement under the disadvantage of an adverse wind. The contest was sustained several hours, two of the British gondolas being destroyed, while an American schooner was burned and a gondola sunk. Sixty Americans were killed or wounded, and the British acknowledged a loss of forty. The engagement ceased for that day, the British drawing off beyond the range of the guns with the intention of renewing the fight in the morning. To contend against such a superior force was fruitless, and General Arnold, unsuspected by the enemy, removed his force during the night. The British, as soon as they discovered the stratagem, gave chase; but the unfavorable wind gave them little advantage, the only thing captured being one gondola, though the Americans abandoned several others, which were sunk to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy. On the 13th, the contest was renewed. Arnold in the *Congress* galley, and General Waterbury in the *Washington*, covered the retreat of the American force; though the latter, on account of being disabled, was compelled to strike. Arnold, in the *Congress*, which carried ten guns, was engaged at one time with three ships of the enemy, mounting in all forty-two guns, and defended himself "like a lion," engaging them sufficiently long to permit the escape of four or five of his flotilla. Subsequently he succeeded in running his vessel ashore in Otter Creek; and, after landing his men, blew her up with colors flying. In this engagement, the Americans lost eleven vessels and ninety men; the British, one vessel blown up, two sunk, and fifty men. Cooper, in his *Naval History of the United States*, thus speaks of this battle: "Although the result of this action was so disastrous, the American arms gained much credit by their obstinate resistance. General Arnold, in particular, covered himself with glory, and his example appears to have been nobly followed by most of his officers and men. Even the enemy did justice to the resolution and skill with which the American flotilla was managed, the disparity in the force rendering victory out of

the question from the first. The manner in which the *Congress* was engaged until she had covered the retreat of the galleys, and the stubborn resolution with which she was defended until destroyed, converted the disasters of this part of the day into a species of triumph."

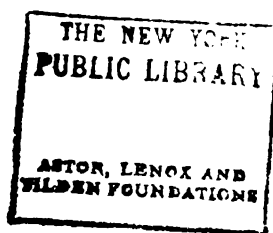
The people of Vermont rendered efficient service to the garrison at Ticonderoga by forwarding them supplies of flour, at a time, too, when they had only bread enough for sixteen days, and were hourly expecting an attack. On the 6th of July, 1777, the Americans, under General St. Clair, evacuated Ticonderoga, in consequence of the presence of Burgoyne, who detached a portion of his command for the purpose of pursuing them: this came up with the Americans at Hubbardton, where a desperate encounter took place, in which the Americans were routed.<sup>1</sup> The intelligence of the approach of Burgoyne filled the people of Vermont with alarm, exposed as they were to the encroachments of the British, destitute of protection, and of the means of securing it. In this desperate emergency they appealed to Massachusetts and New Hampshire for aid, and the latter placed a large force at their disposal, under John Stark, who was commissioned as brigadier-general, he having previously resigned his commission in the continental army, feeling that his labors were not appreciated by congress. General Stark first halted at Manchester with his troops, numbering fourteen hundred men, six hundred of whom were Green Mountain Boys under Colonel Seth Warner;<sup>2</sup> and next, disregarding the orders of General Schuyler, who directed him to join the army on the west of Hudson's river, collected his troops at Bennington, leaving Colonel Warner at Manchester. General Burgoyne, with the main body of the British army, lay at Fort Edward. From this force Burgoyne detached Colonel Baum with about 1,500 Germans and one hundred Indians, for the purpose of scouring Vermont as far as Connecticut River, and "trying the affections of the country." He was also to "cross the mountains to Rockingham and Brattleborough, and bring thirteen hundred horses or more," as well as cattle, for labor and provisions, returning to the army with his booty within fourteen days. Directions were likewise given to Baum to tell the people that his detachment was the advance guard of the British army, which was marching to Boston. The "affections of the people" were found to be very different from what had been

<sup>1</sup> See article on Hubbardton.

<sup>2</sup> These troops were raised by the Committee of Safety of Vermont, after a long and most gloomy session, at the suggestion of Ira Allen, by the confiscation of the estates of Tories, a practice which this state was the first to adopt, and which was deemed at the time of doubtful expediency, but afterwards generally adopted by other states.



anticipated; and though they may have been credulous enough to believe the last story, still they were determined to try the strength of the advance guard of the British army, if they could do nothing more. Accordingly, when the Indians, who were the pioneers of the detachment under Baum, were discovered by Stark's scouts, on the 13th of August, about twelve miles from Bennington, Stark detached Colonel William Gregg with two hundred men to obstruct their march. Towards evening information was brought Stark that a body of regular troops with artillery was advancing towards Bennington; and the next morning, with his whole brigade and some of the Vermont militia, he marched to support Colonel Gregg, who was ill prepared to resist such a superior force as the enemy had brought into the field. General Stark had not proceeded more than ten miles before he met Gregg retreating, the enemy in full pursuit and close upon his rear. As soon as Baum saw Stark's column, he came to a halt on the eminence (marked 1, as seen in the engraving) now called Hessian hill, and there intrenched himself. The Americans took a position in open view, but there were no offensive operations on either side; and, shortly after, they marched back about a mile towards Bennington and encamped, a few men being left to skirmish with the enemy, thirty of whom, with two Indian chiefs, were killed. The next day, August 15th, was rainy; and nothing was done except some skirmishing. Many of the Indian allies deserted, because, as they said, the woods were full of Yankees. The next morning Stark was reinforced by two companies, one of Vermont militia and the other from the county of Berkshire, Mass., his whole force now numbering sixteen hundred men. He detached Colonel Moses Nichols, with 250 men, to act against the rear of the enemy's left wing; and Colonel Hendrick, with three hundred, to attack the rear of the right. Three hundred were placed in front to divert their attention; while Colonels Hobart and Stickney commanded two detachments, one of two hundred to attack the right wing, and the other of one hundred to support Nichols in the rear of the left. The battle was begun in the latter quarter precisely at three o'clock, P. M.; and was carried on simultaneously by the other detachments, Stark himself advancing with the main body. The contest lasted two hours, at the end of which the enemy's breastworks were forced, two pieces of their cannon taken, and a number of prisoners; while the remnant retreated down the hill indicated in the right of the engraving, some of the men in the panic being precipitated into the Walloomscoik. While Baum's party was in full retreat, Stark received intelligence of the approach of another body of the enemy, a reinforcement sent for by Baum, as soon as he learned the force of the Americans, — commanded





**Bennington Battle-Ground.**

by Colonel Breyman. Just at this juncture, Colonel Seth Warner's Green Mountain regiment, ordered from Manchester by Stark, came up, and fell upon the enemy with a desperation similar to that with which the British light brigade charged upon the Russians at Balaklava, though without the same fatal results,—feeling great chagrin at not having participated in the first engagement. Stark rallied his scattered troops, and led them again into the action, which was severely contested. The cannon taken from Baum were used with good effect; and, at sunset, the enemy were routed and compelled to retreat, the Americans pursuing till dark. Two other pieces of cannon were taken from Breyman,<sup>1</sup> with all the baggage, wagons, horses, and numerous warlike implements.<sup>2</sup> There were found dead on the field 226 men belonging to the enemy, and Baum was mortally wounded; thirty-three officers and above seven hundred privates were made prisoners, including a large number of Tories. The American loss was four officers and ten privates killed, and forty-two wounded.

This is generally conceded to have been one of the most important battles of the Revolution. It was the turning-point in the series of successes which had crowned the British arms, and which had produced in them an overweening confidence. Who would have thought, a month before, that the vauntful enemy would have been willing to admit that “this unfortunate event has paralyzed at once our operations”? or that Burgoyne would be compelled to write, as he did four days after this battle, that, “The Hampshire Grants in particular, a country unpeopled and almost unknown in the last war, now abound in the most rebellious race of the continent, and hang like a gathering storm upon our left”? Washington, writing to Putnam, said that one more stroke by New England such as that of Stark would entirely crush Burgoyne. There is no doubt that this victory—the more decisive because fought by untrained militia against veteran regulars—sowed “the seed of all the laurels that Gates reaped during the campaign;” and both Stark and Seth Warner deserve great praise

<sup>1</sup> A desperate contest for these field-pieces occurred in the ravine at the left of the engraving, indicated by figure 2. They were taken and retaken more than twice, but at last remained in the hands of the Americans. These cannon were surrendered to the British by General Hull, at Detroit, and were not long after retaken by the Americans, and, upon the conclusion of peace, were deposited in the arsenal at Washington. They have since been presented by congress to the state of Vermont, and are deposited in the state-house at Montpelier.

<sup>2</sup> Some of these trophies were presented to Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts; but the last state was the only one which thought them of sufficient value for preservation, and now retains them—a musket, drum, cap, and sword being suspended over the entrance to the senate chamber in the state-house.

for the part they took in the struggle, which their respective states, congress, and the people generally, were not slow to acknowledge. Stark, Warner, and the troops under their command, joined the army under General Gates. All offensive operations of the British in the North terminated with the surrender of Burgoyne and his whole army at Stillwater, October 17, 1777.

On the close of the war and of the violent controversy between New York and Vermont respecting jurisdiction, the latter state stood in a freer and less embarrassed position than most of the confederate states. She had managed to pay her own troops during the war by the avails of her public lands and other means, and, having no connection with the confederacy, no part of the burden of the public debt of the United States rested on her. Still, many of the people, though possessed of houses and lands, were, in other respects, in straitened circumstances, and so much encumbered with debts, that their immediate payment, in the scarcity of money at that time, would have required the sacrifice of all they had. Under this state of things, Vermont was temporarily affected, but to a much less serious extent than some other states, by attempts to interrupt the due course of justice. In 1786, the violent organized demonstrations that had been made in Massachusetts against the sitting of the courts,—known as Shays's rebellion, and which for a brief period assumed an alarming aspect,—broke out also in Vermont. Mobs appeared before the court houses at Windsor and Rutland, for the purpose of compelling an adjournment of the courts, in order to delay the issue of executions against debtors; but the ringleaders being promptly taken, tried, fined, and put under bonds to keep the peace, and the insurrection in Massachusetts being crushed at the same time, no further difficulty of the kind arose. From the admission of Vermont into the federal union until the resignation and death of Governor Chittenden in 1797, she moved steadily onward in her career of prosperity, leaving but little room for the intrigues of politicians or the progress of party and faction. The wisdom of his administration, which was everywhere acknowledged, has not inaptly been compared to that of Washington;—the one conducted his state to a position of independence, the other, his entire country. Each in retiring from the place of honor and power, having been a model in purity of purpose and unaffected modesty, expressed to the assembled councillors of state a paternal solicitude for the general welfare, and warned them of the dangers of ambition, jealousy, and division. After the death of Governor Chittenden, political parties were formed, and often appeared anxious to push their separate plans; but nothing occurred to remain as a dark spot upon the fame of the state. The administrations of

Governors Tichenor and Galusha, lasting, except for two years, until 1819, were mainly prudent and just.

In the war of 1812 and 1813, Vermont furnished a number of men, who were drafted into the service of the United States, and served till their term of enlistment had nearly expired, when Governor Chittenden recalled them by proclamation, which caused some temporary excitement. In the battle of Plattsburg, September 11, 1814, the Vermont militia rendered efficient aid; and, in fact, in every effort necessary to protect the country, they took part zealously, manfully, and nobly. The battle of Plattsburg and the naval battle of Lake Champlain deserve more than a passing notice. It was the intention of the British to attack the Americans simultaneously by land and water. The British general, Sir George Prevost, previous to the 11th of September had been strengthening his position at Plattsburg, and only awaited the arrival of the naval force to commence his work of total annihilation. The American land-force of 1,500 men was under the command of General Macomb, and in it was quite a large delegation of the Green Mountain Boys. The British land-force under General Prevost amounted to twelve thousand men. The British naval force, somewhat superior to the American, consisted of a frigate of thirty-nine guns, a brig of sixteen guns, two sloops of eleven guns each, and thirteen gunboats, carrying eighteen guns, amounting in the aggregate to ninety-five guns, and manned by 1,050 men, all under command of Commodore Downie. The American force, under Commodore Macdonough, consisted of the *Saratoga*, twenty-six guns; *Eagle*, twenty; *Ticonderoga*, seventeen; *Preble*, seven; and ten gunboats, carrying sixteen guns,—amounting in the whole to eighty-six, and manned by 820 men. The British force left their anchorage in Plattsburg Bay, and about nine o'clock, on the 11th of September, anchored in line, about three hundred yards from the American squadron, in which position the battle was commenced. The conflict was very obstinate, the enemy fighting with great bravery; but the superior character of the American gunnery decided the fate of the day. The action lasted two hours and twenty minutes, at the expiration of which the enemy's guns were silenced, while their frigate, brig, and two schooners were captured. A few of their gunboats were sunk, while the others made their escape. The British loss was eighty-four killed and 116 wounded, among the former being Commodore Downie and three lieutenants. The Americans lost fifty-two killed and fifty-eight wounded, Lieutenants Gamble and Stansbury being among the killed.

As soon as the naval action began, the enemy's land-force opened their batteries upon the American works, attempting at the same time to cross the Saranac with the intention of assaulting the rear of the

Americans; but this, and the attempts made at other points, were thwarted by the destructive fire from the forts of the Americans. The surrender of the naval forces of the enemy struck a panic into those on land, and they commenced preparations for a retreat, which was performed during the afternoon and night; but with such precipitation, on account of the proximity of the Americans, that they left behind them their wounded, and large quantities of provisions, ammunition, and military stores. The whole loss of the enemy upon land in killed, wounded, prisoners, and deserters, exceeded 2,500 men. The aggregate loss of the Americans did not exceed 150. This engagement concluded all hostile operations worthy of notice upon Lake Champlain and within Vermont.

#### SUBSEQUENT HISTORY — GOVERNMENT AND STATISTICS.

The history of Vermont since 1814 can be soon told; for little has occurred to mar the general prosperity with which the state has been blessed. In 1836, a new era opened in the legislative proceedings. Up to this time the whole legislative power had been vested in a house of representatives; but, in the early part of this year, the constitution was so amended as to create a senate, similar to that branch in the legislatures of most of the other states. In 1837, Vermont, in common with her sister states, suffered in the disastrous financial crisis; but it was more on account of the failure of the crops than by the derangement of the currency. In the latter part of this year, a foray had been set on foot in Canada East against the provincial government; and the people of Vermont, unacquainted with the true state of affairs, gave expression to their generous sympathies for a people whom they erroneously supposed to be struggling for liberty under the iron arm of a tyrannical government. Large public meetings were held in various parts of the state, at which inflammatory speeches were delivered and violent resolutions passed; while vigorous efforts were made in collecting arms, ammunition, and men for the patriotic cause. Governor Jenison issued a proclamation, warning the people of the peril of violating the neutrality laws established by congress; but the public feeling had become enlisted to such an extent, that this proclamation — now regarded as not only well suited to the occasion, but honorable to the governor — was treated by the leading papers of the state with censure, and by many in terms of unqualified condemnation. They even went so far as to organize a force; but, being prevented from forming on the Vermont

side of the line by General Wool, who had command of a body of militia on the frontier, they crossed over, and organized on the Canada side to the number of five or six hundred. They were poorly armed and provisioned, and were under no discipline; hence they had no chance whatever in a conflict with the British regulars, a large body of which, amounting to about 1,700, was despatched to drive them off. General Wool being apprised of this fact, communicated it to the overzealous patriots, giving them the alternative of returning and surrendering their arms to him; or, if they persisted in prosecuting their chimerical design, and attempted a retreat into Vermont, of being shot when they came over. At first, they resolutely determined to maintain their ground and take the consequences; but their courage gradually cooled down, and, before the arrival of the British regulars, the little army had recrossed the line, laid down their arms, and dispersed. This is the first and only fillibustering expedition which ever emanated from this state, and which, at the time, received a countenance from a portion of the people, which was long ago withdrawn upon a better knowledge of the facts; but its prosecution and ignoble *finale* are worthy of being recorded as the prototype of sundry recent efforts elsewhere for the righting of the supposed wrongs of other people.

The people of Vermont made a formal declaration of their independence, and of their right to organize and establish a government of their own, January 15, 1777. On the 2d of July following, a convention of delegates assembled at Windsor, adopted the first constitution of the state, which is believed to have been drawn or chiefly suggested by Dr. Thomas Young, an ardent patriot of Philadelphia, who especially sympathized with Vermont in her unhappy condition. This instrument — mainly modelled after the constitution of Pennsylvania — was revised by the same convention in the following December, and went into effect without being submitted to the people for ratification. The revising power was by it vested in a council of censors, — a board of thirteen persons, to be elected by the people once in seven years, for the term of one year, to be composed of persons not members of the council or general assembly, — whose duty should be “to inquire whether the constitution has been preserved inviolate in every part, during the last septenary,” and whether there has been a proper exercise of power by the different branches of government, including the imposition and collection of taxes, and the disbursement of public moneys. This body has authority to pass public censures and order impeachments; to recommend to the legislature the repeal of any law deemed by it unconstitutional; and to call a convention, to meet within two years from the sitting of the board, for the purpose of passing upon any amendments or additions to



the constitution considered necessary by said board, which matter to be submitted must be promulgated at least six months before the day appointed for the choice of the convention. A revision was made by the first council in 1786, and again in 1792; and the material part of the constitution as it now stands was adopted in convention, July 4, 1793. The long preamble of 1777, reciting the grievances of the people, is retained; following which is the "declaration of rights" in twenty-one sections, and the frame of government in forty-three sections. The supreme executive power was by it vested in a governor and a council of twelve; and the supreme legislative functions in a house of representatives, styled the General Assembly, composed of one representative from each town. The assembly had power to prepare and enact bills into laws annually in conjunction with the council, to elect judges of the courts, sheriffs, justices of the peace, major and brigadier generals, and had various other powers essential to the legislative department, but "no power to add to, alter, abolish, or infringe any part of the constitution." The governor and council, in addition to the ordinary functions of that body, had some of the powers incident to a senatorial branch, such as the trial of impeachments, and the election, in conjunction with the assembly, of certain magistrates and officers. All bills originating in the assembly were laid before the governor and council for their revision and concurrence, or for proposals of amendment; and, in case of the assembly's disagreeing to such proposed amendments,—the same being returned to the assembly within five days, or before final adjournment,—it was in the power of the governor and council to suspend the passing of such bill until the next session of the legislature. Provision was also made for speedy discharge from imprisonment for debt, except in case of fraud; against the forfeiture of the estates of suicides to the commonwealth, and against deodands; and the legislature was directed so to regulate entails as to prevent perpetuities. The constitution of Vermont approached very near to a pure democracy, until 1836.

From 1793 to 1828, although the several councils of censors used their septennial prerogative of calling conventions, no amendments were made. At the last-named date, an article was added restricting the exercise of the political franchise to natural-born citizens and those naturalized according to act of congress. In 1836, twelve out of nineteen proposed articles of amendment were adopted, which effected, besides prohibiting a suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, the abolition of the governor's council, and the creation of a senatorial branch of government composed of thirty members, and invested with powers substantially concurrent with those of the house of representatives.

In 1850, ten out of fifteen proposed amendments were adopted.

These provided that the assistant judges of the county courts, sheriffs, high bailiffs, and state's attorneys should be elected by the freemen in their respective counties; judges of probate in their respective probate districts; and justices of the peace in their respective towns,—the number of justices to be regulated according to the population of each town,—and for a new apportionment of the senatorial branch.

Down to 1856, the representation of the people in conventions called for the amendment of the constitution had been territorial, each town electing one delegate. The original constitution did not prescribe the method of calling the convention, and the council of censors of 1856, considering the mode of representation previously practised unequal and anti-democratic, directed that the convention, called to consider certain amendments proposed by the council, should consist of ninety members apportioned by the council to the several counties according to their population, and should be elected by the freemen of the counties respectively. This mode of constituting the convention had been often urged in former councils, and advocated by able and influential politicians, and was supposed to be in accordance with public opinion. But the convention which assembled in January, 1857, resolved that the council, in transferring the delegation from the towns to the counties, had "acted unwisely, and exceeded the powers devolved upon them by the constitution, as heretofore practically interpreted." The amendments proposed by the council were accordingly not considered by the convention, which adjourned *sine die* without further action upon them.

The judiciary, as before indicated, has always been an elective branch of government, chosen annually by the *legislature* until 1850, since which time the people have had the direct choice of the assistant judges of the county courts. And yet it must be said, that, for ability and high-toned character, the judiciary of Vermont scarcely stands below that of the foremost state. This is partly due to the fact, no doubt, that the people have the good-sense to continue the same judges in office for a series of years. The different political parties into which the freemen of the state are divided have always been fairly represented on the bench; and it is believed, that, for a period of forty years, no judge of the supreme court, otherwise acceptable to the people of the state and the legal profession, has failed of a reëlection for reasons of *party* policy or prejudice. The supreme court has varied somewhat in the number of justices at different periods, always having had a chief judge, with from two to five assistant justices. For several years previous to 1857, the state was divided into four districts or circuits. Besides the three supreme judges, there was a judge for each circuit, who presided at the county courts. There were also two assistant

county judges. In 1857, the districts were abolished; the supreme court was reorganized, with a chief judge and five assistant judges, one of whom presides at the county courts, which are still composed of the presiding judge and the two county judges, and which have two annual terms. Two general terms of the supreme court are held annually, at which all the judges are required to be present, and a special term in each county, at which four judges must be present, unless in the event of sickness or legal disqualification. In such case three are allowed to act at the special terms. At the general terms, the concurrence of four, or a majority of the whole number, and at the special terms the concurrence of three, is necessary to the decision of a cause. If any inability to attend the term happens to one of the four assigned, before the term commences, another judge is assigned in his place. Each supreme judge is a chancellor, and has all the power vested in a court of chancery. All the duties and powers heretofore belonging to the circuit judges, under the statute of 1849, are vested in the supreme judges.

The surface of the state is diversified with hills and valleys, alluvial flats and gentle acclivities, elevated plains and lofty mountains. The only level land of any account is in a few townships along the margin of Lake Champlain. The celebrated range of Green Mountains (*Verts Monts*), from which the state derived its name, extends through the central part from north to south. With the exception of a few naked peaks it is clothed with verdure, and, when cleared of its native forest trees, can be profitably cultivated from base to summit. Much pasture and other improved land lies at an elevation of more than 2,000, and it is believed at least 2,500 feet above the level of tide water. The rivers and streams are very numerous, but small: most of them rise in the mountains, and their courses are short and rapid. Natural ponds and lakes, from a few yards to seven or eight miles in length, are to be found in all parts of the state. Lake Champlain is the largest body of water, lying partly in this state and partly in New York, about one third only being in the latter state. Its length, in a straight line, from Whitehall to the 45° of north latitude is 102 miles, and twenty-four miles further to its northerly terminus at St. John's in Canada. Its width varies from one fourth of a mile to thirteen miles, its mean width being about four and a half miles. It has a depth of water varying from fifty-four to 282 feet, and its area is about 567 square miles. The name of the lake, in the Abnaki tongue, was Petawâ-bouque, signifying "alternate land and water," in allusion to the numerous islands and projecting points of land. Another name, said to have been given by the aborigines, was Caniaderi-Guarunte, "the mouth or door of the country." The soil is generally a rich loam, the more productive in the

limestone regions, but everywhere being sufficiently fertile to reward the labors of the husbandman.

Vermont is essentially an agricultural state. The great mass of the population is engaged in the cultivation of the soil and the rearing of stock. According to the reports of the last census, there are 2,601,409 acres of improved land, and 1,524,413 acres unimproved; having a cash value of \$63,367,222, to which may be added the farming implements, valued at \$2,739,282. The stock, agricultural products, and home manufactures — taking the census table of 1850 as a basis — annually amount to upwards of \$11,000,000.

Vermont takes the first place among the New England states in the value of live stock,<sup>1</sup> and the sixteenth in the Union. In the quantity of cheese made it is exceeded alone by New York and Ohio; in the production of maple sugar it is the second, New York being first; in that of wool the fourth, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio preceding it; in the quantity of butter, the sixth; in the raising of potatoes, the fifth.

The financial condition of the state, so far as the debit and credit sides of the treasurer's books are concerned, is quite satisfactory. He reports a balance in the treasury, for 1857, after paying all liabilities, of \$1,627.14. There is no state debt, it is true; but the satisfaction to be derived from this circumstance must be deeply shaded by the fact, that the school fund, which some years since had in its accumulation reached the sum of \$200,000, was appropriated to cancel the general indebtedness of the state. The banking capital amounts to \$4,028,740, distributed among forty-one banks, there being also twelve savings institutions, having on deposit \$874,760.43.

The educational institutions consist of three colleges — at Middlebury, at Burlington, and at Norwich, the last being a classical seminary with a military organization; three medical schools — at Castleton, Woodstock, and Burlington; one theological school (Baptist), at Fairfax; 118 academies and high schools; 149 select schools; and 2,719 school districts. The number of pupils in the public schools between the ages of four and eighteen years is 95,602.

That there has been far too little interest felt in Vermont in the subject of popular education is very painfully manifest. Allusion has been made to the fact, that (in 1845) the school fund was abolished to pay the state debt. There was no superintendent of schools from 1851 to 1856. In 1856, a board of education was established, consisting of the governor and lieutenant-governor, *ex officio*, and three members

<sup>1</sup> By a reference to the reports of the Boston market, it will be seen that this state sends more sheep, cattle, and horses to that market than all the other New England states combined.

appointed by the governor. The report of the secretary of the board for the year 1857, which appears to be a very elaborate document, and to embrace an extensive range of facts, states that 104 of the districts are without school-houses; 101 entirely without schools; 222 without blackboards or other apparatus; and, in respect to the *condition* of school-houses, "1,029 are reported good, 784 are reported middling, and 760 bad." In respect to the "qualification of teachers," "attendance on school," "expenditures of money," and "supervision of schools," the report is quite severe (whether unduly so, it is not the province of this work to decide); but for the credit of the *parents* in Vermont who have children to educate, and who vote or withhold appropriations, — of the *town committees* or other authorities having supervision of the schools, and who employ the teachers, — whether efficient because it is the best economy in the long run, or inefficient because the immediate cost in dollars and cents is less, and thus saves the town a few dollars in taxation, — of the *teachers*, who ought not to be mere hirelings, — and of the children themselves, to whom the future destinies of the state are to be entrusted, — we earnestly desire to believe that its statements are somewhat overwrought. It is thought that the general school law of the state (passed in 1845) is every thing that is needed to give practical efficiency to the system; and, with the usual intelligence and shrewdness of the people, the indefatigable labors of her worthiest and most talented sons in the work of reform, and the fact that the legislature, in 1856, commenced this work by the establishment of a board of education, it is certainly not unreasonable to expect that Vermont will soon merit a better fame than that of neglecting the education of her youth. The board appoint a secretary for a year, whose duty it is made "to exert himself constantly and faithfully to promote the highest interests of education in the state." The town superintendents are to report on or before the 1st of September in each year.

The state makes provision for the education of its indigent deaf and dumb at the asylum at Hartford, Conn. The asylum for the insane, at Brattleborough, is the most conspicuous among the benevolent institutions of the state, a full account of which is given in the article on that town. The details of the state prison may be found in the article on Windsor, where it is located.

The cotton and woollen manufactories have a very limited operation, the aggregate capital thus employed not exceeding \$1,000,000. The iron manufacture employs a capital of about \$500,000; and the tanneries nearly as much more. The quarrying of marble makes an important item in the industrial statistics of the state. The business is yet in

its infancy, although it has increased more than a hundred-fold within ten years. The quarries are valued at about \$15,000,000. Marble of almost every color is found in the state, and varying no less in texture; some veins yielding that which is equal to the best Italian for statuary.

The commerce of the state is chiefly inland, but there are no returns by which an approximation to its value can be obtained. The foreign commerce is carried on chiefly at Burlington, by way of Lake Champlain, down the St. John's and the St. Lawrence rivers. The shipping owned in the state, in 1850, amounted to 4,530 tons. The exports for that year were valued at \$430,906; and the imports, \$463,092. The licensed tonnage of Lake Champlain in 1851, according to "Andrews's Report on Colonial and Lake Trade," was 8,130, and the whole value of the commerce for the same year was about \$26,000,000; but it is not easy to estimate what proportion belonged to Vermont. From the eastern or Vermont side the chief export is produce; from the western or New York side, lumber and iron.

There are seven lines of railroad passing through the state, having a combined length of 550 miles, and constructed at an expense of \$23,332,085. The first railroads in the state — the Vermont Central, commenced in 1846, and the Rutland and Burlington in 1847 — were built for the purpose of forming an uninterrupted line from the navigable waters of the great basin to the city of Boston, yet so far removed from the great lines of transportation through New York as to be free, not only from all immediate competition with them, but from the attractive influence of other great cities, thus securing to Boston the advantage of becoming the place of export of western produce. These roads have been of great benefit to the agricultural interests of the state, but the expectations of the stockholders have not yet been realized. While the large investments in stock and bonds are not available, and perhaps never will be, the losses have not affected the growing greatness of the state.

There are thirty-five weekly newspapers issued in the state, and two dailies. There are thirty public libraries, having in the aggregate 21,061 volumes, which, added to the school, Sunday school, college, and church libraries, make a total of 64,641 volumes. The religious denominations consist of 102 Baptist, 175 Congregational, 140 Methodist, seventy-six Union, thirty-eight Universalist, twenty-six Episcopal, eleven Presbyterian, eight Roman Catholic, two Unitarian, seven Friends, one Free, and four Second Advent churches. Emigration has much affected the condition of all the religious denominations as to numbers, many of the churches showing an absolute decrease from this cause.

The state has three congressional districts, fourteen counties, and 239

towns, besides a very few unorganized townships. The increase of population in Vermont was more rapid in early times than it has ever been since. In 1760 there were not more than three hundred people in the territory. At the breaking out of the Revolution, the population had grown by immigration in fifteen years to about 20,000. In 1790, it was 85,416; in 1800, 154,465; in 1810, 217,713; in 1820, 235,764; in 1830, 280,652; in 1840, 291,948; and in 1850, 314,120. The colored population, which never came up to one thousand, has, since 1820, suffered decrease. The foreign population, in 1850, amounted to 18,250, or about six per cent. of the aggregate.

The true natural elements of advancement for the people of Vermont are largely found in the agricultural capacities of the state. Even the mountains, towering high between the inhabitants of the east and the west, in a longitudinal course, as though designed by Providence for a barrier, are no wall of separation for them, but serve rather as the great dorsal column of the body social and political. United at the first in the great struggle with a foreign power, and in their more personal contest for state sovereignty, the people still find union in the peaceful conquest of the soil. Their cattle are scattered over a thousand hills. From the very mountain tops kindred salutations are exchanged upon both sides, in the lowing and bleating of the flocks and herds. Men are neighbors, and partake the hospitalities of each other's homes, though they see not the ascending smoke from each other's dwellings. May we not suppose that the virtues of their sons and daughters, encircled by other proper influences, are more secure where the acres of each are broad enough to invite to honest and profitable toil, and to the sweetness of repose, — where the crowded marts of trade and the dense masses of manufacturing cities, pent up from the pure air of heaven, are not found? Although Vermont is rich in other resources than agricultural, may these ever stand foremost! Developed by independent and free labor, may these ever guard and increase the integrity and prosperity of her sons!

## CHAPTER IX.

### COUNTIES AND TOWNS<sup>1</sup> OF VERMONT.

ADDISON is situated in the western part of Addison county, on the shore of Lake Champlain, directly opposite old Crown Point, and forty miles from Montpelier. The first settlement within the limits of Vermont was made by the French, in 1731, at a place called Chimney Point, in the southwest part of this town, but it never amounted to much. The old garrison house and stone windmill that they erected, foreshadowed a design to penetrate further into the wilderness; but, when it became apparent that a French dominion could not be established in America, the settlement was abandoned to the English. The next year after the fall of Canada (Oct. 14, 1761), it was chartered by New Hampshire to Simon Ely and sixty-three others, and, in 1769 or 1770, Zadock Everest, one Ward, and Hon. John Strong, afterwards chief justice of the county court, and one of the council of state, moved here with their families. A few others soon followed, but they were all forced to leave during the war, and, on their return in 1783, found that their buildings had all been destroyed. They soon rebuilt them, however, and the settlement progressed with considerable

<sup>1</sup> In Vermont, the population, when not otherwise expressed, will be found according to the last census reports. The valuation is from the "Grand List" for the last year. In giving the areas of towns and counties, Thompson's History of Vermont, Lippincott's Gazetteer, and Deming's Vermont State Officers, have been compared with the state and county maps. The table of areas of towns, published in connection with the last state valuation, has also been consulted, which — although the areas fall considerably short of the fair estimate for each town and county, on account of not including highways, and "lands sequestered and improved for schools, and other public, pious, and charitable uses" — is often of assistance in approximating to a just computation. Thompson has generally given the contents according to the original charters of towns, and, as his estimates for counties correspond, in the aggregate, with the generally received area of the state, they have been, for the most part, adopted here, but modified where the facts appear to require it. The word "cities" has been omitted in the caption to this chapter, as there is but one city (Vergennes), in the state.



rapidity. The majority of the original settlers under the New Hampshire charter lived to see the town nearly all under improvement, and themselves in possession of all the enjoyments of life. The town was organized March 29, 1784, and the first church was formed by the Congregationalists, November 24, 1803; but since 1825 they have become so reduced in numbers and influence as not to support a minister. The original grant embraced 28,800 acres. In 1804, a part of the town lying east of Otter creek was annexed to Waltham, and that part east of Snake mountain to Weybridge. Its present area is set down in the state returns of town valuations at 24,008 acres.

The surface of the town is generally level. Snake mountain, in the southeast corner, 1,310 feet high, is the principal elevation. Several small streams water the town, some falling into Otter creek, and others into the lake; but there are no valuable mill privileges. Addison has one village, called East Addison; two churches, Baptist and Methodist; twelve school districts, and three post-offices—Addison, West Addison, and Chimney Point. Population, 1,279; valuation, \$541,932.

ADDISON COUNTY, on the western side of the Green Mountains, at nearly an equal distance from the northern and southern extremities of the state, contains an area of 700 square miles. It was incorporated October 18, 1785, when it included within its limits the present county (except Granville and Orwell), all of Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle, and Lamoille counties, nine towns from Orleans, and eight from Washington county. The first county court was held at Addison in March, 1786. In 1792, Middlebury became the shire town. In 1797, Kingston, now Granville, was annexed from Orange county, and, by the incorporation of Chittenden, the county received nearly its present dimensions. It has since acquired Orwell and Starksboro', and parted with Warren. One or two other slight changes in towns have occurred, without any alterations, however, in the county lines. The county now contains twenty-three towns, which, in 1855, had 7,392 polls. The annual sessions of the supreme court commence in January. The terms of the county courts are held in June and December.

The surface of Addison county is level or slightly undulating in the western part, which contains rich farming lands, while the eastern part is rough and mountainous. Granular limestone is very abundant, and, in many places, is extensively quarried for building purposes. It receives a good polish, is beautifully variegated, and large quantities are annually manufactured. The Otter creek flows through the whole length of the county, falling into Lake Champlain at the north of Panton. It has also a considerable lake, — Dunmore, — which is con-

ned by a small stream with the Otter creek. The county is also traversed by the Rutland and Burlington Railroad. Population, 26,549; valuation, \$8,347,031.

ALBANY, in the southwestern part of Orleans county, thirty-four miles from Montpelier, was granted by this state, June 27, 1781, to Henry E. Lutterloh and sixty-four others, and chartered June 26, 1782, by the name of Lutterloh, which was exchanged for its present name, October 13, 1815. It contains about thirty-six square miles. The settlement was commenced about the close of the last century; and in 1800 there were only twelve inhabitants within its limits. It was organized March 27, 1806. Albany is watered by Black river and several of its branches, the principal stream being formed in Craftsbury, and passing through in a northeasterly direction. There are likewise several considerable ponds, the most important of which (Great Hosmer's) is partly in Craftsbury. The soil is generally sandy or gravelly; along the river is some fine interval. There are three villages — West Albany, Hansonville, and Albany Centre; four church edifices, — one occupied by the Free-will Baptists, one by the Episcopal Methodists, one by the Wesleyan Methodists, and one by the Baptists and Congregationalists; fourteen district schools and one select school; and one post-office — Albany Centre: also, one grist-mill, two clapboard mills, and seven saw-mills. Stock raising is much attended to. Population, 1,052; valuation, \$266,444.

ALBURGH, Grand Isle county, lies in the northwest corner of the state, thirty-three miles north of Burlington, and is surrounded by water except on the Canada side. It is of a triangular form, its length from north to south being about ten miles, and its average width three and a half miles, containing rather less than thirty-six square miles. The charter is dated February 23, 1781. The first attempt at settlement had been made in 1730–1 by the French, who erected a stone windmill upon a tongue of land, which has, in consequence, received the name of Windmill point. The settlement by the English was commenced by emigrants from the neighboring town of St. John's, about the year 1782. They were originally from the states; but, being loyalists, found it necessary, during the Revolutionary war, to shelter themselves in Canada. For some years after the settlement was commenced, they were much harassed by the diversity of claimants to the lands. Ira Allen claimed the town, and obtained a grant of it from the state, after the settlement was begun; and, five or six years after, brought actions of ejectment against the settlers, which terminated in their favor. In

their defence of these suits, the settlers expended about \$3,000. It was also claimed by Sir George Young, as a grant from the Duke of York, and by some others; but the settlers were determined to hold the land themselves, and all the actions of ejectment hitherto brought against them have been decided in their favor.

Alburgh was organized in 1792. The surface is very level. There are no mountains or streams of any consequence. The soil is rich and productive. Alburgh Springs is quite a noted watering-place, and the reputation of the medicinal properties of the water has been the means of building up a thriving village. There are two large hotels, two stores, and two church edifices here—Methodist and Congregational. Missisquoi bay, near the springs, abounds with the choicest fish, and hence is a considerable resort for the angler. There is one other church in town—Methodist; twelve school districts, and three post-offices—Alburgh, West Alburgh, and Alburgh Springs. The trade is principally in produce. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through the north part of the town. Population, 1,568; valuation, \$528,485.

ANDOVER, in the southwest part of Windsor county, sixty-eight miles from Montpelier, was chartered by the government of New Hampshire, October 16, 1761, to Nathaniel House and his associates. The first permanent settlement was made about 1776, by Thomas Adams, Moses Warner, Solomon, David, Joseph, and Antipas Howard, Joel and Samuel Manning, Samuel Burton, Jonathan Cram, Samuel Brown, and Stephen and Joseph Dudley. The town was organized in March, 1780. The progress in settling it was very much retarded by the controversy with New York, and by the Revolution; but, more than all, by the habits of the people. They had not the desire for the accumulation of wealth that now influences their posterity; a competency was the sole idea of the most avaricious, while the majority only sought to satisfy the wants that each day brought.

A number of young men from Andover enlisted in the army in 1814, and served through the campaign. Colonel Sylvanus L. Marsh joined the army under General Jacob Brown,—was stationed for a time at Sackett's Harbor and at Plattsburg, and afterwards at Fort Union at the mouth of the Yellowstone river in Nebraska, until the expiration of his term of service. Joseph and Joel Howard were in the service a short time. The latter, in a night skirmish with the Indians, received a blow from a tomahawk which came near proving fatal. Jacob and John Abbott, David Bradford, James Burton, Joseph Cram, Nathan Walker, Willard Lund, and Cyrus Bailey were all good soldiers. Alvin Adams, the leading partner in the world-renowned express firm of Ad-

ams and Company, whose lines of travel reach to the ends of the earth, and whose banking-houses and express-offices are in all the great cities of America, is a native of this town, born June 16, 1804. Solomon Howard, the first settler in the south part of Andover, was a soldier in the Revolutionary army, — was in the battles of Trenton, Princeton, and Stillwater, at the latter of which he witnessed the surrender of Burgoyne. Dr. Charles W. Chandler was the first physician, and the only regular practitioner for many years, having commenced about 1798, and continued in practice till near the time of his death, in 1853. He was a very useful man, not only in his profession, but as a citizen, and was highly respected by his townsmen, to whom he had endeared himself by his many noble qualities. Ebenezer Farnsworth, originally of Groton, Mass., served three years in the Revolutionary army. He died March 30, 1844. The Congregationalists built a house of worship in 1820, near the central part of the town; but the church is now extinct. The Baptists erected a meeting-house in 1809, on East hill, in the north-eastern part. The church was organized in the summer of 1803, over which Rev. Joel Manning was ordained October 2, 1806.

The original charter of the town embraced 23,500 acres; somewhat more than half of which lies on the eastern declivity of a secondary chain of elevations running parallel with the main range of Green Mountains, and the other part on the western declivity. In 1799, the town was divided by a line running along the top of the ridge, and the western portion was incorporated by the name of Weston. The surface is very rough, and the soil hard to cultivate. Williams's river has a good supply of water and several mill privileges. There are two small villages — Andover and Simonsville; three church edifices — Congregational, Baptist, and Union; nine school districts, and two post-offices: also, one manufactory of bedsteads and spring beds, one grist-mill, three saw-mills; and two variety stores, with a capital of \$15,000. Population, 725; valuation, \$211,683.

ARLINGTON is in the western part of Bennington county, on the boundary line dividing Vermont from New York, and forty miles from Rutland, and contains 24,960 acres. It was chartered by the government of New Hampshire, July 28, 1761, to a number of persons, most of whom belonged to Litchfield, Conn. The first settlement was made in 1763 by Simon Burton, William Searls, and Ebenezer Wallis. During the following year, Jehiel and Josiah Hawley, Thomas Peck, and Remember Baker, the active and fearless associate of Ethan Allen in the New York controversy, settled here. At the organization of the

town — supposed to have been about 1768 — Baker was chosen clerk ; but how long he served in that capacity is not known ; for Isaac Bisco had the office in 1777. Bisco, being a noted tory, fled to Canada, and either destroyed or secreted the town records, as no trace of them has ever been discovered. The present records commence in 1781. The original settlers were Episcopalians ; and, in 1784, they organized a church, over which they settled Rev. James Nichols in 1786. Thomas Chittenden was a resident here during the Revolutionary war, — was elected governor in 1778, and served the state in that capacity (with the exception of 1789), until 1797. Ethan Allen represented this town in the first general assembly. The surface is mountainous. The principal elevations are Red mountain, and Bald and Spruce peaks, belonging to the west mountain range.

The town is watered by the Battenkill river and its tributaries, which afford many excellent mill privileges, and on the banks of which are considerable tracts of fine interval land. Granular limestone abounds here ; several quarries have been opened, and are successfully wrought. The railroad from Bennington to Rutland passes through the east part of the town. There are three villages — Arlington, West Arlington, and East Arlington, the two former having post-offices ; three church edifices — two Episcopal and one Congregational ; eleven school districts, two grist-mills, three saw-mills, one sash, blind, and door factory, one marble-cutting shop, and one establishment for making washboards and chairs. Population, 1,084 ; valuation, \$412,805.

**ATHENS**, in the northeast part of Windham county, one hundred miles from Montpelier, and comprising about 9,000 acres, was granted March 11, and chartered May 3, 1780, to Solomon Harvey, John Moore, Jonathan Perham, and sixty-four others. A portion of Athens was annexed to Grafton, October 30, 1816, and a part was taken October 27, 1794, with a part of Putney, to form the town of Brookline. Parts of Rockingham and Grafton were annexed to Athens, November 2, 1846. Some choppings were made in the fall of 1779, but Jonathan Perham and Ephraim Holden of Rindge, N. H., removed their families here February 25, 1780, and were soon followed by Seth Oakes and family from Winchendon, Mass.

Near the end of October, 1780, two men, at work in the fields, were disturbed by what they supposed to be the whoops and yells of the Indians. Quitting their work, they spread the alarm as fast as possible, and the people, affrighted almost out of their senses, hurried away with their children with all possible despatch. The report was spread with

the greatest rapidity through the neighboring towns, that Athens was destroyed by the Indians, and each and every one prepared to defend himself from the dreaded attack. Colonel Sargeant of Brattleboro' immediately sent out orders into all the adjoining towns for assembling the militia, with which he repaired to the scene of desertion, and soon ascertained the true cause of the panic. It should be said, however, in justice to the memory of these settlers, that this occurrence was but a few days after the savage destruction of Royalton. But, alas for the credulity of the fleeing and terror-stricken settlers! according to Thompson, either the hallooing of a hunter passing in the vicinity of the town, or an attempt by a party of surveyors to imitate the Indian whoop, was the only foundation for a tale certainly fraught with serious inconvenience to all of the inhabitants, as well as to their cattle, which were left exposed to the assaults of a snow-storm and without food till the error was discovered. Rev. Joseph Bullen was settled as the first minister, and remained here for some years,—teaching school during the winter, and, on Sundays, preaching whenever he could gather an audience. The first and only church edifice was erected in 1818, some years after Mr. Bullen's departure. It was built by the Methodists.

The surface of Athens is mountainous, and difficult to cultivate; though, between the mountains, there is some rich alluvial land, capable of being made highly productive. The slopes of the highlands were settled upon and improved by the original proprietors, while the valleys were entirely neglected. At present the valleys are being improved, and the highlands devoted to grazing. The town is destitute of either store, public-house, or manufactory of any kind, excepting a snath and axe-handle shop.

There is one post-office here; but it has no permanent location, being moved about by the caprice of each incoming administration, or those who are appointed to the control of it. Three school-houses have been built, two of which are in tolerable condition, but the other is so much out of repair that it is no longer fit for use. Population, 389; valuation, \$112,546.

AVERILL, Essex county, is a township six miles square, situated in the north part of the county, and was chartered June 23, 1762. It has no civil organization, and is consequently not reckoned among the towns of the state. It is watered by a considerable branch of Nulhegan river, several streams which fall into Connecticut river, and some which pass off northerly into Canada. There are likewise several considerable ponds. The surface is broken, and the soil cold, and unfavorable for cultivation. Population in 1850, seven.

**AVERY'S GORES** is the name given to a number of tracts of land in different parts of the state, granted to Samuel Avery in 1791, most of which have been since annexed to towns. *Avery's Gore* in Addison county contained 8,744 acres. It lay nearly on the summit of the Green Mountain range, between Lincoln and Granville, to which towns the greater part of it has been annexed at different times. *Avery's Gore* south of Huntington in Chittenden county, of triangular form, originally contained 5,970 acres, but a part of it has since been annexed to Huntington. In 1850 it had a population of eighteen. *Avery's Gore* in Essex county, lying between Norton and Lewis, and containing 10,685 acres, is mountainous and uninhabited. *Avery's Gore* in Franklin county, bounded north by Montgomery, containing 9,723 acres, was granted June 28, 1796. It lies on the west range of the Green Mountains, and contains the source of two branches of the Missisco river. It has a post-office, and a population of forty-eight.

**BAKERSFIELD**, in the southeastern part of Franklin county, and about forty miles from Montpelier, was granted February 27, 1787, and chartered January 25, 1791, to Luke Knowlton, by the name of "Knowlton's Gore." The township then contained 10,000 acres, but additions were made at different times from adjoining towns, so that it now comprises an area of 26,000 acres. The settlement was commenced in 1789, by Joseph Baker, from whom the town took its name; and Joel Brigham and Abijah Pratt settled here about the same time. The town was organized March 30, 1795. The surface is broken, but not mountainous. Some of the tributaries of the Missisco river take their rise in this town. There are three villages — the North, South, and Centre; two church edifices — Congregational and Methodist; two literary institutions — the Bakersfield Academy, and the Bakersfield Academy and Literary Association; thirteen school districts, and one post-office. Population, 1,523; valuation, \$348,820.

**BALTIMORE** is a small triangular town, containing about three thousand acres, in the southeast part of Windsor county, sixty-four miles from Montpelier. It was set off from Cavendish, October 19, 1793, and organized March 12, 1794. The surface is mountainous, and the town is well watered by springs and brooks. Hawks mountain, on the northwest, renders the communication with Cavendish difficult, which was the occasion of the division of the town. The summit of the mountain, for the greater part of the distance, is the boundary line between the towns. There are two establishments for the manufacture of starch. The town has one school district, with two

school-houses, and three religious societies — Congregational, Baptist, and Universalist. Population, 124 ; valuation, \$55,687.

BARNARD, in the northwestern part of Windsor county, and thirty-seven miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, July 17, 1761, by the name of Bernard, to William Story, Francis Barnard, and others. From association with the name of Barnard, the difference in spelling being so slight, the town soon acquired his name. James Call felled the first timber in the summer of 1774, but the settlement was not vigorously commenced until the next year, when Thomas and William Freeman and Thomas Freeman, jr., John Newton, Lot and Asa Whitcomb, Nathaniel Page, and William Cheelde, brought their families into town. On the 9th of August, 1780, Barnard was visited by a party of twenty-one Indians, who made prisoners of Thomas M. Wright, Prince Haskell, and John Newton, and carried them to Canada. Newton and Wright made their escape the spring following, and Haskell was exchanged in the fall. They suffered many hardships while prisoners, and upon their return ; but they all eventually arrived safely at home.

Barnard was organized April 4, 1778, and contains 27,260 acres. It lies between Ottâ Quechee and White rivers, the surface being level and the land productive. Locust creek rises in the southwest part, and, running northerly, falls into White river in Bethel. Near the centre is a natural pond, which covers about one hundred acres, and discharges its waters to the northwest into Locust creek. The outlet of this pond affords some very fine mill sites. A branch of Ottâ Quechee river rises in the south part, on which is one saw-mill. Barnard contains two villages — Barnard and East Barnard — each of which has a post-office ; four churches — two Methodist, one Congregational, and one Universalist, and sixteen school districts : also, four stores, three carriage shops, one chair factory, and one tannery. Population, 1,647 ; valuation, \$440,082.

BARNET, Caledonia county, lies on the west bank of the Connecticut, thirty-five miles east from Montpelier, and was chartered September 16, 1763, to Enos, Samuel, and Willard Stevens, sons of Captain Phineas Stevens, who so nobly defended the fort at Charlestown, N. H., April 4, 1747, against a large party of French and Indians under the command of M. Debeline. The first settlement was commenced March 4, 1770, by Jacob, Elijah, and Daniel Hall, and Jonathan Fowler. Those who settled subsequently were mostly emigrants from Scotland, a part of the township having been purchased in 1774, by the late Alexander Harvey and another gentleman for a company in that country. In the summer



of 1772, Enos Stevens erected a grist-mill on Stevens river, about one hundred and fifty rods from its junction with the Connecticut. Major Rogers, on his return from an expedition against the St. Francis Indians, in 1759, encamped near the mouth of the Passumpsic river, where he expected to meet a supply of provisions to be sent on from Charlestown, N. H., by order of General Amherst. The order of the general was complied with. Samuel Stevens and three others proceeded up Connecticut river with the canoes, to the round island opposite the mouth of the Passumpsic, where they encamped for the night. In the morning, hearing the report of guns, they were so terrified that they reloaded their provisions and hastened back to Charlestown, leaving Rogers and his famishing rangers to their fate.

Barnet was organized March 18, 1783, and contains 24,927 acres. Some parts of the surface are broken and hilly, but the soil in general is rich. There is some handsome interval along the Connecticut and Passumpsic, the ascent from which to the upland is precipitous and rocky. The rocks are principally argillaceous slate; and, just below the mouth of the Passumpsic, they rise almost perpendicularly from one hundred to three hundred feet. At the foot of the Fifteen-mile falls, in Connecticut river, is a cluster of twenty-one islands, the largest of which is said to contain ninety acres. There are several other fertile islands of considerable size between Barnet and Monroe. The principal streams are the Passumpsic, — which falls into the Connecticut just below the foot of the Fifteen-mile falls, — and Stevens river, which unites with the Connecticut about two miles below the mouth of the Passumpsic. On these streams are several valuable mill sites, the Barnet Manufacturing Company occupying the most important, at a place where the river is only three rods wide, and falls about one hundred feet in the distance of ten rods. There are also four woollen mills. There are three natural ponds — Harvey's, covering about three hundred acres; Ross's, about one hundred; and Morse's, about fifteen acres. The present head of boat navigation on Connecticut river is at McIndoe's Falls village, 449 feet above the sea level. There are three villages — Barnet, McIndoe's Falls, and Passumpsic; seven church edifices — Congregational, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, and three Union used mostly by the Presbyterians; eighteen school districts, an academy, a high school, and four post-offices — Barnet, West Barnet, Passumpsic, and McIndoe's Falls. The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad passes through this town. Population, 2,521; valuation, \$748,960.

BARRE is situated in the southeast part of Washington county, bounded on the north by Montpelier, and contains 19,312 acres. It

was granted by the state of Vermont, November 6, 1780, to William Williams and sixty-four others, under the name of Wildersburgh, and was organized March 11, 1793, but the name not being satisfactory to many of the citizens, a town meeting was called, and holden on the 3d of the following September, when, after voting to petition the legislature to change the name of the town, they voted, as appears upon the town records, that the man who would give the largest sum for the erection of a meeting-house should select the name which the town would petition the assembly to adopt. They pursued the wisest course to raise the largest possible sum for the desired purpose, by putting the privilege up at auction. Bids ran high, and it was finally struck off to Ezekiel D. Wheeler, at £62, (about \$300). Wheeler selected the name of Barre, which the legislature on the 19th of October substituted. Samuel Rogers and John Goldsbury moved into Barre with their families in 1788. The next year several other families arrived, and from year to year accessions were made to the population by settlers from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. Dr. Robert Paddock, who came here from Connecticut in 1794, was the first, and for many years the principal, physician.

The Congregationalists built a church here in 1808, which they occupied until 1840; when, on account of the inconvenience of its location, they disposed of it, and erected a new brick edifice in the village. The Universalists sustained preaching here nearly or quite as early as the Congregationalists. They erected a house of worship in the south village in 1822, and have sustained preaching a portion of the time. The Methodists built a new and elegant meeting-house in 1838, and have a large and flourishing society. The Baptists once had a name to live here, but by reason of deaths and removals the society has been broken up. The surface is hilly; the principal elevations are Cobble and Millstone hills, each of which is composed of a solid mass of granite, of a light gray color, and valuable for building material. The granite of which the state-house at Montpelier was constructed, — recently destroyed by fire, — was taken from these quarries. The town is watered by Stevens and Jail streams, — branches of the Winooski river; they afford some good mill privileges.

There are two considerable villages, commonly called the upper and lower, or Barre and South Barre; and one, known by the name of Twingsville, which is located in such close proximity to the lower village that it may be considered as belonging to it. There is an academy, called the Barre Academy, under the control of the Congregational denomination, having a beautiful and very commodious edifice; there are sixteen school districts, and two post-offices — Barre

and South Barre: also, two large manufactories, one for casting furnaces and door-trimmings, and one for casting mill-irons; three grist-mills, four saw-mills, two planing machines, two wheelwright shops, and three blacksmith shops. Population, 1,845; valuation, \$656,925.

BARTON, Orleans county, lies forty-five miles northeasterly from Montpelier. It was granted October 28, 1781, to General William Barton of Rhode Island and his associates, by the name of Providence. The settlement was commenced about the year 1796 by Jonathan Allyne, Asa Kimball, James May, and John Kimball. The first settlers were from Rhode Island and New Hampshire. The town was chartered October 20, 1789,—taking the name of Barton in honor of the principal proprietor,—and was organized March 20, 1798. The soil is generally very good. Willoughby's river runs into Barton a short distance and falls into Barton river, which runs through the town from south to north. The pond in Glover, which broke its northern bound and ran entirely out, on the 6th of June, 1810, passed down Barton river, making very destructive ravages, the traces of which are still to be seen. Belle pond is the largest body of water in town, and is one of the principal sources of Barton river. There are two villages—Barton and Barton Landing; three church edifices—one Congregational and two Methodist; nine school districts, and two post-offices—Barton and Barton Landing: also, four saw-mills, two grist-mills, and five stores. The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad passes through Barton. Population, 987; valuation, \$266,969.

BELVIDERE, in the northern part of Lamoille county, lies on the western range of the Green Mountains, and is about thirty-two miles from Montpelier. It was granted to John Kelly, March 5, 1787, and was chartered by the name of Belvidere, November 4, 1791. The settlement was commenced about the year 1800, and in 1810 had a population of 217. The town originally contained about 30,100 acres, 13,440 of which were annexed to Eden in 1828. A considerable part is mountainous, and unfit for cultivation. It is watered by two branches of the river Lamoille. There are two villages—Slab City and Pottersville; one church edifice—Christian; four school districts, and one post-office: also, four saw-mills, one grist-mill, and one starch-mill. Population, 256; valuation, \$68,030.

BENNINGTON, Bennington county, near the southwest corner of the state, was granted by Benning Wentworth, governor of New Hamp-

shire, January 3, 1749, to William Williams and sixty-one others, mostly of Portsmouth, N. H., and was called Bennington in allusion to the governor's Christian name. It was the first township granted within the present limits of Vermont; but it is not known that any of the grantees ever removed here. The settlement was begun in the spring of 1761 by emigrants from Massachusetts, consisting of the families of Peter Harwood, Eleazer Harwood, Leonard Robinson, and Samuel Robinson, jr., of Hardwick, and of Samuel and Timothy Pratt of Amherst, numbering, including women and children, about twenty. They came on horseback, bringing with them all their household goods. During the fall of that year, other families, to the number of thirty or forty, came into town, among whom were those of Samuel Robinson, sen., James Breakenridge, John Fasset, Oliver Scott, and Joseph Safford. The families of Clark, Fay, Harmon, and Warren, were early settlers; but, it is believed, did not arrive the first year. At the time, the most advanced posts in New England west of the Green Mountains were two small forts, called East and West Hoosic, one situated about a mile west of the present village of North Adams, Mass., and the other in Williamstown, Mass. The garrisons at these posts had, for a number of years, given partial protection to some families in their immediate neighborhood; but fear of the French and Indians prevented any extensive settlements being made.

The first proprietors' meeting on record was held on the 11th of February, 1762, when the first step was taken towards building a meeting-house, which was erected two years afterwards. The first town meeting was held on the 31st of March following, when the organization took place. Much of the most important public business was, however, for the first two or three years, transacted by the proprietors of the town, who held separate meetings from those of the inhabitants. About this period, the jurisdiction of this territory was transferred from New Hampshire to New York, when that long series of troubles commenced which have been noticed in Chapter VIII. The titles of the settlers to the lands were called into question; and it became apparent that they must either purchase them anew, or abandon their improvements to the New York claimants. There was, indeed, one other alternative, and that was to defend their possessions by force, if necessary, and that alternative they adopted. As this town was (excepting Brattleboro') the first settled in the state, and possessed the largest number of inhabitants, as well as some of the most resolute and determined men, it became the headquarters of the opposition in the New York controversy, as well as of the Green Mountain Boys, during the eventful period of the Revolution. Here Allen, Warner, and others planned the expedition to Ticonderoga;

and here also were deposited the provisions and military stores for the American army, in the attempted capture of which, the forces of General Burgoyne met with such a disastrous defeat.

Bennington, under the pretended jurisdiction of New York, was included in the county of Albany. When Vermont, in 1779, organized its state government, this became a half shire town of Bennington county, and has continued such ever since. A court-house\* and jail were erected here early. The old Green Mountain Tavern, situated in the centre village, was kept by Stephen Fay. Its sign was the stuffed skin of a catamount placed on a post twenty-five feet high, with its jaws extended and teeth grinning towards New York. In this old house, now occupied by Samuel Fay, a descendant of the first proprietor, the most important public concerns were decided, as well as the fate of those accused of offences against the people. Many a luckless Yorker and many an unfortunate tory have had reason to regret that they ever saw the sign of the catamount. The battle ground, a view of which is given opposite page 718, is about seven miles northwest of Bennington Centre, on the Walloomscoik river, in the town of Hoosic, N. Y.

Some of the most prominent of the early inhabitants of Bennington deserve a passing notice. Samuel Robinson, sen., who died in England in 1767, was one of the most distinguished men. Next to him was James Breakenridge, who was a large landholder, owning a considerable tract in the northwest part of the town. He had been a lieutenant in the French war, and was an active and useful man. He was sent to England with Jehiel Hawley of Arlington, as an agent for the settlers, in the fall of 1772, and returned the next year. Seth Warner is too well known to require any thing to be said of him. He came to Bennington early, was an active and efficient opponent of the Yorkers, was colonel of a continental regiment throughout the war, and died at Woodbury, Conn., soon after its close. Ethan Allen resided in Bennington for two or three years previous to the war, and also for a time after the peace. Moses, Samuel, and Jonathan Robinson, sons of Samuel Robinson, sen., were prominent men. Moses Robinson was the first colonel of militia in the state, and, with his regiment, was often in active service during the war. He was afterwards chief judge of the supreme court, governor of the state, and senator in congress. He died in 1813. Samuel Robinson was an active and prominent military man in the state service, and became colonel of the militia when that post was of more importance than it is reckoned at present. He commanded one of the Bennington companies of militia in the Bennington battle, and Captain Elijah Dewey commanded the other. Jonathan Robinson be-

came chief judge of the supreme court, and a senator in congress. John Fassett and Stephen Fay were among the early leading men of the town. John Fassett, jr. was also a prominent man, and held the office of judge of the supreme court for several years. Dr. Jonas Fay, son of Stephen, held many important posts in the state, and was a noted and useful man, as was also his brother, Joseph Fay. Theodore S. Fay of New York, a popular writer of the day, and minister resident in Switzerland, is a grandson of Joseph Fay. David Fay, another son of Stephen, was United States attorney for the Vermont district under Mr. Jefferson, and afterwards judge of the supreme court. Isaac Tichenor came to Bennington in 1777, as a deputy commissary of the provincial government, was a member of the assembly in 1781, and for several successive years; afterwards was a member of the council, judge of the supreme court from 1791 to 1795, a senator in congress in 1796, governor of the state from 1797 to 1807, and also in 1809, and again a senator in congress from 1814 to 1820. He died in 1840, at the age of eighty-five. The family of Saffords were also leading men. Samuel Safford was major in Colonel Warner's continental regiment, and served through the war. He was afterwards a prominent and useful man in civil life. The first representatives of the town in the general assembly, chosen the first Tuesday of March, 1778, were Nathan Clark and John Fassett. Nathan Clark was the first speaker of the house. He had been a leading man in committees of safety and conventions for several years. The representatives chosen on the first Tuesday of September, 1778, were John Fassett and Ebenezer Walbridge. The latter was colonel of the militia about that time, and afterwards became brigadier-general. He was an active and prominent man. General David Robinson, son of Samuel, died here December 10, 1843, at the age of ninety years, having been a resident of the town eighty-two years. Brevet Lieutenant Martin Scott, of the fifth infantry, was a native of this town, was educated at West Point, entered the army from that school forty years ago, and was killed at the battle of El Molino del Rey, September 4, 1847. In his youth he was famous among the sharpshooters of the Green Mountains. Hon. Hiland Hall, now governor of Vermont, who was also a member of congress from 1833 to 1843, and judge of the supreme court from 1847 to 1850, is a citizen of this town.

A meeting-house was erected by the Congregational denomination about the year 1804, at which time this was the only prominent sect in town, and remained so for quite a number of years, which was mainly owing to the influence of Samuel Robinson, sen., whose custom it was, when persons came in to purchase land, to find out their religious

views; and, if not in consonance with those of the predominant sect, he advised them to seek land in other sections, but particularly in Shaftsbury, where he was a proprietor. Rev. Jedediah Dewey, the first minister, was settled in 1763, and died December 21, 1778. The Rev. David Avery, the second minister, who settled May 3, 1780, was previously chaplain to General Learned's brigade of the army. He was dismissed May 7, 1783. The Baptist church was organized April 11, 1827, the Rev. Henry F. Baldwin, the first minister, having served the church from June, 1828, to October, 1830. A meeting-house was erected by this church in 1830. The Methodist church was organized in 1827, and the Rev. Cyrus Prindle was the first minister. It has a meeting-house of stone, which was erected in 1833. The Episcopalians organized their church, July 24, 1834, and erected a meeting-house in 1836; Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston was the first minister.

Bennington is situated on an eminence, commanding an extensive prospect over a most delightful country, intersected by a large number of rivulets, that pass through finely cultivated fields and ample meadows. The houses are generally of a good description, but are not built with much regularity. About one quarter of the surface is mountainous; the remainder being upland, with a considerable quantity of interval. The soil is excellent. The lowlands are well watered by the Walloomscoik and its branches. The principal productions are corn, rye, oats, hay, butter, cheese, beef, pork, and poultry, which generally find a ready market. The town is connected with Troy, the head of the Hudson steamboat navigation, by a good macadamized road, the distance being thirty miles. Iron ore is found in several places; also the oxide of manganese and yellow ochre in abundance, the last only of which is at present manufactured. Marble, argillaceous slate, and hornstone are also found. The marble is worked, but not to a large extent. Mount Anthony, a considerable elevation in the southwest part, has on its east side a cavern, which is somewhat of a curiosity.

The town contains three villages — Bennington (upon which corporate powers were conferred November 3, 1849<sup>1</sup>), Centre Bennington, and North Bennington; seven church edifices, four of which are in Bennington — Congregational, Episcopal, Baptist, and Methodist Episcopal; one at the Centre (Congregational), and two at the North village (Baptist and Methodist Episcopal); twenty-one school districts, an academy at the Centre, and one at the North village; and three post-offices, cor-

<sup>1</sup> The legislature of Vermont has, at different times, incorporated several villages, for the better administration of the police system and to give other corporate privileges to a compact community, apart from the government of the whole town, where a large part of the territory is sparsely populated.

responding respectively with the names of the villages. There are two incorporated manufacturing companies — the United States Pottery and New England Pottery. At Bennington there are two grist-mills, two furnaces and machine-shops, one powder-mill, one paper-mill, one stone-ware pottery, two wagon shops, two manufactories of under-shirts and drawers, one for tin, copper, and sheet-iron, one for linseed oil, and one for cotton wadding. At Centre Bennington there is a manufactory of tin, copper, and sheet-iron; and at North Bennington are two cotton manufactories, a cotton-batting mill, a paper-mill, and three establishments for making steel squares. The Bennington Banner is the only newspaper; and there is one bank (the Stark), with a capital of \$100,000. Population, 3,923; valuation, \$1,166,722.

BENNINGTON COUNTY is in the southwest part of the state, and contains an area of 610 square miles, which is divided into seventeen incorporated towns. The state legislature passed a law in 1779 dividing the state into two counties; all that part of the state west of Green Mountains constituted Bennington county, and all that part east of the mountains was incorporated by the name of Cumberland. Each was to have two county seats, — Westminster and Newbury for Cumberland, and Bennington and Rutland for Bennington; but on the incorporation of Rutland county, Manchester became a shire town with Bennington for this county. The annual term of the supreme court is held in February. The county courts are held alternately at Bennington and Manchester, there being two terms annually — in June and December. The surface is mountainous, a large portion of it being unfit for cultivation. It is well watered by tributaries of the Deerfield, Hoosic, Battenkill, Otter Creek, and West rivers. The principal feature in the county is its large deposits of limestone, a range of which extends entirely through it from north to south. Iron ore is also abundant. The county is traversed by the Western Vermont Railroad, and by a short branch from Bennington. Population, 18,589; valuation, \$5,222,926.

BENSON lies in the northwest part of Rutland county, on the eastern shore of Lake Champlain, and was granted by the state, October 27, 1779, to James Meacham, Ezekiel Blair, and seventy-two others, and chartered May 5, 1780.<sup>1</sup> Some territory was taken from it and annexed to Orwell, November 8, 1847. The settlement of the town was commenced in 1783 by Messrs. Barber, Durfee, and Noble. Mr. Durfee had been here previous to the commencement of the Revolution, but

<sup>1</sup> The name was given by Mr. Meacham in honor of a Revolutionary officer by the name of Benson, for whom he had great respect.



was driven off before he had made much of a beginning in the way of clearing. The organization of the town government took place in March, 1786, and in 1790 the Congregational church was gathered and organized, over which Daniel Kent was settled in 1792 as the first minister in the town. This church has been very prosperous; notwithstanding it has suffered for some time the loss of many of its members by the westward tide of emigration, whose places however have been supplied by the constant accession of others. The Baptist church, which was organized in the early history of the town, erected a meeting-house in 1841, and the Methodists also erected their house of worship the same year. Benson contains an area of 24,638 acres, and is well supplied with good water. There are two landings where steam-boats stop for freight and passengers, and one village, which is pleasantly situated. The town is divided into eleven school districts, and has two post-offices — Benson and Benson's Landing: also, two grist-mills, nine saw-mills, one fulling-mill, one tannery, and one wheel-wright's shop. Population, 1,305; valuation, \$556,685.

BERKSHIRE, in the northeast part of Franklin county, fifty miles from Montpelier, was granted to William Goodrich, Barzilla Hudson, Charles Dibble, and their associates, March 13, 1780, and was chartered by the name of Berkshire, June 22, 1781. The settlement was commenced in 1792 by Job Barber, Stephen Royce, Daniel Adams, Jonathan Carpenter, and Phineas Heath, who moved their families here in 1793, and from this time the settlement advanced with considerable rapidity. Berkshire was organized in 1794, and contains 23,693 acres. The surface is diversified with gentle swells and vales, and is well watered with brooks. Missisco river runs through the southeast corner, and receives Trout river near the line of Enosburgh. On these streams is some fine interval. Pike river enters the township from Canada, and makes a circuit of several miles, affording some of the finest mill-seats in the country.

Stephen Royce, the first settler, represented the town in the legislature for several years. His sons were Stephen, Elihu M., and Rodney C. The eldest, Hon. Stephen Royce, who is still resident at the old homestead in East Berkshire, was born at Tinmouth — came with his father to this town when about four years old — graduated at Middlebury College — was several years a member of the legislature — twenty-five years a judge of the supreme court, six of which, from 1846 to 1853, he was chief justice — and in 1854 and 1855 was governor of the state. Elihu M. was the first white person born in town. He died in 1826. His son, Hon. Homer E. Royce of this town, is the present representative in congress from the third district. Rodney C. was an

eminent lawyer, and died at Rutland about the year 1834. There are two villages — East and West Berkshire; four church edifices — Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist, and Union; sixteen school districts; and three post-offices—Berkshire, West Berkshire, and East Berkshire: also, one grist-mill, two saw-mills, one carding-machine, one tannery, and an establishment for planing boards and for the manufacture of doors, window blinds, and sashes. Population, 1,955; valuation, \$409,765.

BERLIN, Washington county, lies nearly in the centre of the state, and was chartered by New Hampshire, June 8, 1763, to C. Graham and others. The settlement was commenced in 1785, near the mouth of Dog river, by Ebenezer Sanborn, from Corinth, and Joseph Thurber, from New Hampshire, both of whom removed the next year to Plattsburg, N. Y. In January, 1786, Moses Smith, from Granby, Mass., settled in the southeast corner, supposing that he was in the northwest corner of Williamstown. In May, Daniel Morse and family, from Washington, and in July, Jacob Fowler, from Corinth, removed here. These were soon followed by Captain James Hobart, Hezekiah Sillo-way, William Flagg, Jacob Black, Eleazar Hubbard, Zachariah Perrin, David Nye, Elijah Nye, Jabez Ellis, Aaron Strong, Joshua Bayley, John Taplin, and James Sawyer. Mr. Fowler was the first person who resided here permanently.

Berlin was organized March 31, 1791, and contains 21,658 acres. The surface is somewhat broken. Winooski river forms a considerable part of the northern boundary; Dog river runs nearly north through the western part of the town; Pond brook lies near the centre, and Stevens branch runs across the northeast corner. Berlin pond is a little south-east of the centre, being divided into two bodies of water by a narrow joint of land, and is about two miles long and half a mile wide. An abundance of pickerel is found in this pond. Iron ore has recently been discovered a little east of Dog river, near which *terra sienna* of good quality has been found. The people are mostly engaged in agricultural pursuits. There are two small villages; four church edifices, three of which are occupied, one by the Congregationalists and two by the Methodists; fourteen school districts, and one post-office: also, one large flouring-mill, one hoe manufactory, and seven saw-mills. Population, 1,507; valuation, \$468,732.

BETHEL, in the northwestern part of Windsor county, thirty miles from Montpelier, was at first granted by the government of New York to a company of men, the most of whom were tories, who at the com-

mencement of the Revolution sought safety by flight; when another party of men at Hanover, N. H., having been formed for the purpose of making a settlement on White river and its branches, petitioned the legislature of Vermont for this township, which was granted them March 18, 1778; and on the 23d of December, 1779, the charter was made to John Payne, John House, Dudley Chase, and forty-three others. This was the first township chartered by the government of Vermont. The settlement was commenced in the fall of 1779 by Benjamin Smith, who was joined the next year by Joel Marsh, Samuel Peak, Seth Chase, Willard Smith, and David Stone. A small stockade fort was built here at the commencement of the settlement of the town. It stood at the lower end of the west village, on the north side of the river. The town government was organized May 14, 1782, and in 1790 a Congregational minister was settled, but dismissed in 1794. In 1835 was erected a house of worship. The Episcopal church was organized in 1792, but had no church edifice until 1823.

The surface of the town is broken, and it is watered by White river and its branches. There are two villages, Bethel and East Bethel, the former of which is situated at the mouth of the third branch of White river, and the latter on the second branch of the same river. There are seven church edifices—two Methodist, and one each of Congregational, Universalist, Episcopalian, Baptist, and Union; fifteen school districts, two post-offices, one bank (capital \$50,000): also, one woollen factory, two flour-mills, four wagon-makers, one harness-maker, and one tin-ware maker. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through the town. Population, 1,730; valuation, \$499,471.

BLOOMFIELD, in the northeastern part of Essex county, sixty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 29, 1762, by the name of Minehead. The settlement was commenced before the year 1800, but its progress has been slow. The town was organized August 9, 1802, and contains 21,443 acres. The western and southern parts are watered by Nulhegan river, which empties into the Connecticut river. The northeastern part is watered by two or three small streams, which also fall into the Connecticut. The Grand Trunk Railway crosses the Connecticut river into Bloomfield a short distance above the mouth of the Nulhegan, which river it follows up to its head at Island pond in Brighton. There is no church edifice in town, but stated preaching is had in a school-house, once in two weeks, by the Methodist denomination. There are three school districts, and one post-office: also, four saw-mills, one of which is supplied with shingle, lath, and clapboard machines; three blacksmith shops, and one store. Population, 244; valuation, \$127,732.

BOLTON lies in the eastern part of Chittenden county, midway between Montpelier and Burlington, and was chartered by New Hampshire, June 7, 1763. The first settlers were Noah Dewey, Peter Dilsie, James Moore, Thomas Palmer, Robert Stinson, and John and Robert Kennedy. The town was organized in 1794, and was first regularly surveyed in 1800 by John Johnson. It originally contained thirty-six square miles, and was increased, in 1794, by the addition of the north-east part of Huntingdon. Forty-four lots were taken from it and annexed to Waterbury, October 30, 1851, and its present area is 21,415 acres. The surface is very mountainous and broken, and but a very small part of it capable of being settled. Winooski river runs through from east to west, and along the banks of this stream nearly all the inhabitants reside. The river here receives several branches, both from the north and the south, and the Winooski turnpike passes along its north bank. There are two villages — Bolton and West Bolton; two church edifices — Methodist and Baptist; nine school districts, and two post-offices — Bolton and West Bolton. Large quantities of lumber are manufactured at West Bolton, such as shingles, laths, and the coarser boards. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through the town. Population, 602; valuation, \$117,889.

BRADFORD is situated in the eastern part of Orange county, on the west bank of the Connecticut, which separates it from Piermont, N. H. Three thousand acres of this town, lying on Connecticut river, were granted by New York to Sir Harry Moore, and by him conveyed to thirty settlers. The remainder of the land was taken up by squatters. The name at first was Moretown, but it was altered to Bradford, October 23, 1788. The first settlement was made by John Hosmer in 1765, near the mouth of Wait's river. He was joined the next year by Samuel Sleeper and Benoni Wright; and in 1771 there were ten families here. The first town-meeting was held on the 4th of May, 1773. The town not having been regularly chartered, the legislature, January 22, 1791, appointed Israel Smith, Alexander Harvey, and James Whitelaw, a committee to deed the land to the settlers.<sup>1</sup>

Bradford is exclusively a farming town. The surface is somewhat broken, yet there is but very little waste land. Wait's river, the principal stream, enters from the west, passing through in an easterly direction, and empties into Connecticut river, affording a number of valuable mill privileges. There are also several smaller streams, the principal of

<sup>1</sup> The lands in this vicinity were granted both by New Hampshire and New York, and the townships were surveyed and claimed under charters from both provinces, which produced much trouble and vexatious litigation.

which are Hall's and Roaring brooks. In the northwest corner is situated Wright's mountain, sometimes erroneously called Virgin mountain, in which there is a cavern, called the "Devil's Den." There are two villages — Bradford and Bradford Centre; four church edifices — Congregational, Methodist, Christian, and Union; thirteen school districts, with the same number of schools; one academy, called the Bradford Academy, incorporated in 1820, and in a flourishing condition; three post-offices — Bradford, Bradford Centre, and South Bradford; and two newspapers — Orange County Journal and National Telegraph: also, one foundry and machine-shop, two flour-mills, three saw-mills, one kit factory, one paper-mill, one whetstone factory, one manufactory of agricultural implements and wooden ware, and one tin-ware manufactory. The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad passes through the eastern part of the town. Population, 1,723; valuation, \$617,320.

BRAINTREE lies in the southwest corner of Orange county, and is twenty-one miles from Montpelier. It was granted November 2, 1780, and was chartered to Jacob Spear, Levi Davis, and others, August 1, 1781. The settlement was commenced about the year 1783 by Silas Flint, Samuel Bass, Jacob and Samuel Spear, and others, emigrants from Braintree and Sutton, Mass. Silas Flint's wife was the first woman who came into town, and received in consequence a present of one hundred acres of land from the proprietors. The first proprietors' meeting was held at the house of Jacob Spear, September 19, 1786.

Braintree was organized March 7, 1788, and originally contained thirty-six square miles. It is watered by the third branch of White river, and Ayers and Mill brooks, its tributaries, all which possess sufficient water power for mills. Ayers brook<sup>1</sup> rises in Roxbury and Brookfield, waters the northeast part of the town, and, after receiving Mill brook from the west, unites with the third branch of White river, just below the west village in Randolph. Between Ayers brook and this third branch is a large swell of land, known as Quaker hill; and between the third branch and the head of White river is a considerable mountain, which renders that part incapable of settlement. Braintree contains two villages — East and West Braintree; two post-offices — Braintree and West Braintree; three churches — Union, Congregational, and Baptist; fifteen school districts, and the ordinary country trade and

<sup>1</sup> According to tradition, Ayers brook derives its name from a person by the name of Ayers, who, having run away from New England, became a guide to the French and Indians in their expeditions against the English, but who was taken and executed near this stream about the year 1755.

manufactures. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through this town. Population, 1,228; valuation, \$349,753.

BRANDON is situated in the north part of Rutland county, forty miles from Montpelier, and was chartered by the name of Neshobe, October 20, 1762, which name was altered to Brandon, October 20, 1784. The settlement was commenced in the year 1775, by John Whelan, Noah Strong, David June, Jedediah Winslow, Amos Cutler, and others. Mr. Cutler remained alone in town during the following winter, not having been visited by a human being during that time. In 1777, a party of Indians visited the place and killed two men, George and Aaron Robins, made prisoners of most of the other inhabitants, and set fire to their dwellings and a saw-mill which they had erected. Joseph Barker, his wife, and a child eighteen months old, were among the prisoners. Mrs. Barker, not being in a condition to traverse the wilderness, was set at liberty with the child. The next night, with no other shelter than the trees of the forest and the canopy of heaven, and with no other company than the infant above named, she gave birth to another child. She was found the next day and removed with her children to Pittsford. Mr. Barker was carried to Middlebury, where, feigning himself sick, he succeeded in the night in making his escape, and arrived safely at Pittsford.

Brandon was organized about the year 1784, and contains 22,756 acres. Territory was taken from it and annexed to Goshen, November 11, 1854, and to Chittenden, November 14, 1855. The surface is generally level. The Green Mountains lie along the east line, and present some lofty summits. The interval along Otter creek is extensive and beautiful, not being surpassed in fertility by any in the vicinity. The principal streams are Otter creek, which runs through the town from south to north, and Neshobe river, which rises among the mountains in Goshen and enters Brandon from the east. At the foot of the mountains, Neshobe river receives the waters of Spring pond, and becomes a considerable mill stream, its falls—of which there are several—affording excellent sites for mills and machinery.

A bed of bog iron ore was discovered here about the year 1810, which is inexhaustible, and which has been extensively wrought for some years into bar and cast-iron. From ten to fifteen tons of this ore can be melted in a quarter furnace in twenty-four hours, yielding forty-five per cent. of soft gray iron, which is excellently adapted to the manufacture of cannon, car wheels, and castings requiring great strength. The bar iron which is made from the ore is of excellent quality. Manganese is found in abundance and of the best quality, nearly two hundred tons of

which are annually sent to market, principally to Europe. Marble is extensively quarried and manufactured, and some of it is equal to the finest Italian. About one and a half miles east of the village are two caverns in limestone ledges, the descent into the largest of which is about eighteen feet perpendicular into a room sixteen or eighteen feet square. From this room is a passage, barely sufficient to admit a mid-dling-sized person to pass along in a creeping posture, into another room still larger, which has not been much explored.

Stephen A. Douglas, a leading member of the United States senate from Illinois, was born in this town, on the 23d of April, 1813. After learning the trade of a cabinet-maker, he spent some time here as a student in the academy. From here he went to Canandaigua, N. Y., where he commenced the study of the law, which he pursued until his removal to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1831. From Cleveland he proceeded westward and finally settled in Jacksonville, Ill., where he employed himself at first as clerk to an auctioneer, afterwards as school teacher, devoting all his spare time to the study of the law. In 1834, he was admitted to the bar, and such was his popularity that he was at once elected attorney-general of the state. In 1835, he was elected representative to congress; and on the expiration of his term, in 1837, he was appointed, by President Van Buren, register of the land-office at Springfield, Ill. In 1840, he was elected secretary of state; and in 1841, he was elected to the bench of the supreme court of the state. In 1843, he was returned to congress, and held a seat in the lower house until 1847, when he was chosen to the senate, and again for a second term in 1853.

There are two villages—Brandon village and Forestdale: the former, situated in the centre of the town, is among the most flourishing in the state, and is divided nearly equally by the Neshobe river. There are five church edifices—Baptist, Congregational, and Methodist, of brick, and Episcopal and Roman Catholic, of wood; one seminary, with about two hundred pupils; fifteen school districts; one newspaper—the Northeastern Christian Advocate; and two post-offices—Brandon and Forestdale: also, two blast furnaces, one cupola furnace, the Brandon Iron and Car-wheel Company, which manufactures, besides iron, the celebrated Brandon paints and fire-brick; the Brandon Car Company, Selden's marble works, the manufactory of Strong and Ross's platform scales, three furniture factories, three carriage factories, the manufactory of Washburn's patent car-wheels, a large tannery, two flouring mills with four runs of stones each, and a variety of stores and shops. Besides the product of establishments above enumerated, the principal exports are cattle, horses, butter, cheese, and wool. The Rutland and

Burlington Railroad passes through Brandon. Population, 2,835; valuation, \$1,001,308.

BRATTLEBOROUGH, in the southeastern part of Windham county, 127 miles by railroad from Montpelier, is the oldest town in the state. Of the earliest exploration of the country of which this is the centre, no account has been furnished; but its primitive wilds and natural beauties made this to differ only in the circumstance of location from other towns along the Connecticut, the first appearance of which to European eyes has been elaborately described. The Indian that walked along the margin of this noble river, admiring his stately form reflected on its glassy bosom, has left his hieroglyphics upon the rocks, commemorating the time when the antlered herds were the occupants of the soil, and the eagle, soaring high in the heavens, winged his way over the forests. In 1723, the government of Massachusetts, desirous of protecting from the ravages of the natives the border settlements of that colony, "Voted [December 27], that it will be of great service to all the western frontiers, both in this and the neighboring government of Connecticut, to build a block-house above Northfield, in the most convenient place on the lands called the equivalent lands;<sup>1</sup> and to post in it forty able men, — English, and western Indians, — to be employed in scouting at a good distance up Connecticut river, West river, Otter creek, and sometimes eastwardly above Great Monadnuck, for the discovery of the enemy coming towards any of the frontier towns; and that so much of the said equivalent lands as shall be necessary for a block-house be taken up with the consent of the owners of the said land, together with five or six acres of their interval, to be broke up or plowed for the present use of the western Indians, in case any of them shall see fit to bring their families thither."<sup>2</sup>

Lieutenant-Governor Dummer approved of the measure. The location decided upon was in the southeastern part of this town, on what are called "Dummer's Meadows." The work of erecting the fortress was commenced February 3, 1724, and before the commencement

<sup>1</sup> On running the boundary line between the colonies of Massachusetts and Connecticut in 1713, it was discovered that the former colony had granted several large tracts of land in the latter, and many of them had become the centres of permanent and flourishing settlements. Massachusetts, wishing to retain all the territory which she had hitherto supposed her own, agreed to give Connecticut 107,793 acres of land as an equivalent, which Connecticut accepted. These lands were located in four different places; one of these portions contained 43,943 acres, within the towns of Putney, Dummerston, and Brattleborough, and here the fortress was to be located. — See *Hall's Eastern Vermont*, p. 13.

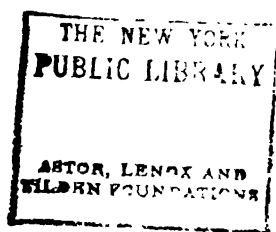
<sup>2</sup> Massachusetts Court Records, 1723–1725, p. 153.

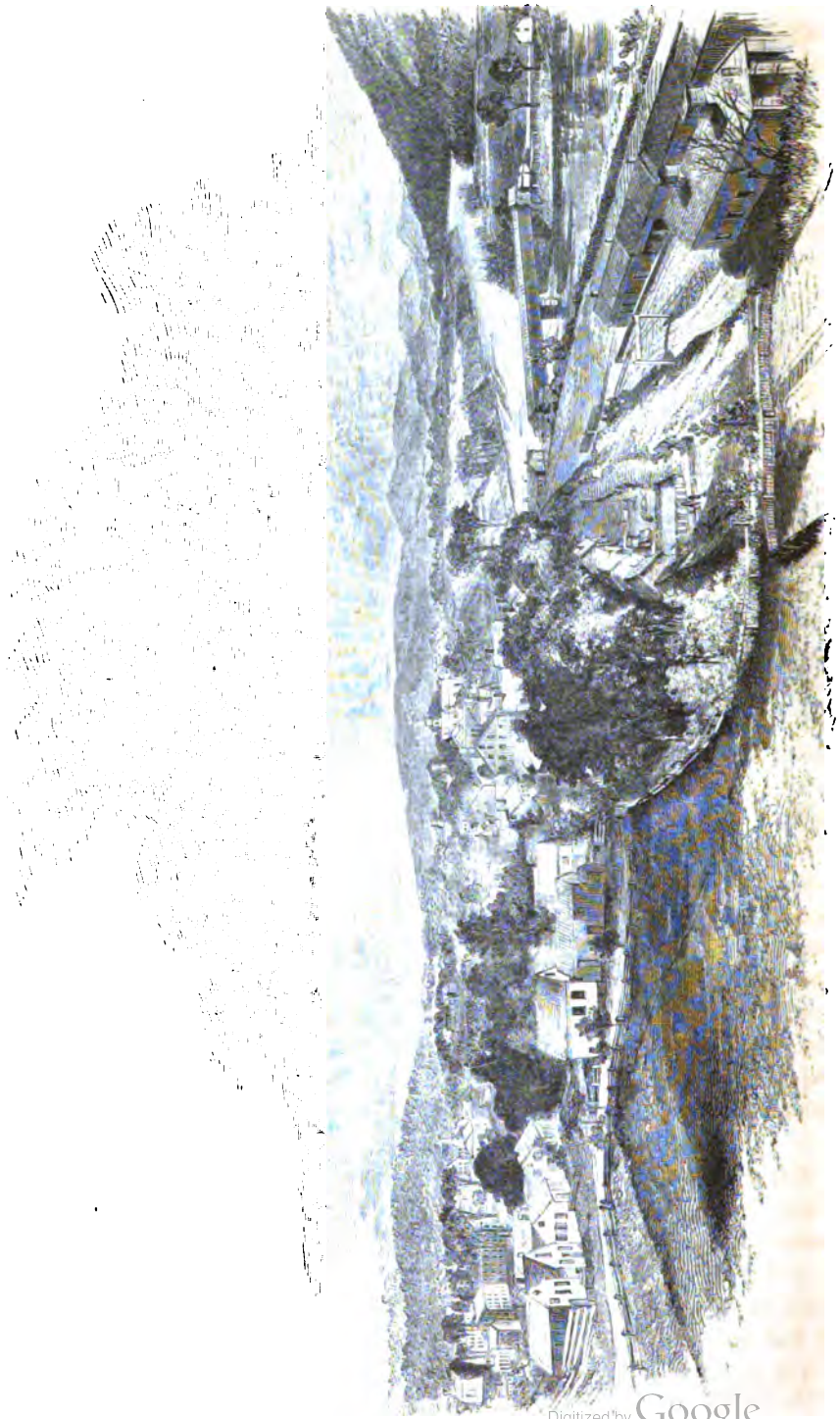


of summer it was completed so as to be habitable; but no sooner was it garrisoned by the government of Massachusetts with provincial troops and friendly Indians, than the jealousies of the French on the north and west were aroused, and, on the 11th of October, they made an attack upon it, killed some of the occupants and wounded others; but anticipating, as it is probable, the march of Colonel Stoddard from Northampton for the relief of the fort, they left a short time previous to his arrival. Several scouting parties were sent out from this fort, but as trading with the Indians was found to be more profitable than fighting them, the garrison was withdrawn on petition of Captain Joseph Kellogg, and, in 1728, Fort Dummer was converted into a truck-house, for which purpose it was used many years. But subsequent troubles with the natives proved the necessity of a military force here. Accordingly a small body of troops was detailed for this station, and remained until 1750.

In 1753, December 26, the governor of New Hampshire chartered this township by the name of Brattleborough, in honor of Colonel William Brattle of Boston, who was one of the principal proprietors. Several new proprietors were admitted by this charter, but the governor was very careful that the rights of older proprietors were not infringed. The settlement progressed slowly, and several years elapsed before any attempts were made to colonize those portions of the town where the villages are now located. Josiah and Nathan Willard, John, Thomas, and David Sargeant, David Sargeant, Jr., John Alexander, Fairbank Moore and son, Samuel Wells, and John Arms were among the first settlers, and were all from Massachusetts, excepting John and Thomas Sargeant and John Alexander, who were born at Fort Dummer. David Sargeant and his son David were ambushed by the Indians, the former killed and scalped, and the other carried into captivity, where he adopted the habits and manners of the natives; but he afterwards returned to his friends. Fairbank Moore and his son were killed by the Indians at West river meadows, two miles north of Fort Dummer, and the wife and daughter of the latter were carried into captivity. In 1771, Stephen Greenleaf from Boston, having purchased what was called the "Governor's Farm," situated where the east village now is, opened a store, which is supposed to have been the first store within the limits of Vermont.

There is no reliable record of the time when the town government was organized. The records now in the town clerk's office commence with the names of the town officers in 1781. When the early settlement of the town is considered, it is not at all probable that this was the first organization; but as the town sent no representative to the legis-





Brattleboro, Vt

lature until 1780, and as there were people in this section whose sympathies were with New York, the town might, for some reason not now apparent, have delayed its organization some years. It was then a flourishing settlement, and prosperity has since attended it. The surface is considerably broken. The principal streams are West river and Whetstone brook, the latter of which affords many excellent water privileges, already occupied by a great variety of mill and other machinery. Connecticut river forms the eastern boundary, and is crossed at the lower part of the east village by a substantial bridge, built in 1804, connecting this town with Hinsdale, N. H. The Vermont Asylum for the Insane is located here. This institution was founded in 1804 by the beneficence of Mrs. Anna Marsh of Hinsdale, N. H., who bequeathed the sum of \$10,000 for this purpose. This sum was afterwards increased to \$26,000 by the legislature of Vermont, and a large, commodious building was erected of brick, neat and plain, in a beautifully romantic spot, hemmed in from the busy and noisy portion of the village by ridges of land. The location, regulation, and management of this institution, are well calculated for the accomplishment of its design. There are two villages, the East and the West, the former of which is much the largest, and as a place of business it ranks among the first in the state. The industry of Brattleborough is partly shown in a woollen factory, paper-mill, a manufactory of paper machinery, one of melodeons, one of box-wood and ivory rules, two machine-shops, a flouring mill, a carriage manufactory, and four printing establishments. There are nine church edifices—two Congregational, two Universalist, a Roman Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, Unitarian, and Episcopal; eleven school districts; an academy, incorporated in 1801; two banks—the Windham County and the Brattleborough, having a combined capital of \$250,000; one savings institution, and two post-offices—Brattleborough and West Brattleborough: also, the Lawrence Water-cure Establishment, which has accommodations for two hundred and fifty patients. The Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad and the Vermont Valley Railroad make this town easily accessible from all parts of New England. Population, 3,816; valuation, \$1,316,688.

BRIDGEWATER lies in the western part of Windsor county, forty-five miles from Montpelier. The charter is dated July 10, 1761. Asa Jones surveyed a lot of land in September, 1779, and the next winter moved his family here from Woodstock, a distance of three miles, on hand sleds, this being the first family in the place. Amos Mendall came in the spring following, May, 1780, and was married to a daughter of

Mr. Jones, thus constituting a second family. In 1683, Isaiah Shaw and Cephas Sheldon moved their families into the north part of Bridgewater, improvements having been made by them the year before. Captain James Fletcher came in with his family about the same time. In 1784, settlements were commenced along the river in the south part of the town by the Messrs. Southgate, Hawkins, and Topliff. The first saw-mill was erected in 1784 by George Boyce; and the first grist-mill in 1786 by the Messrs. Southgate. The first framed house was owned by Joseph Boyce.

Bridgewater was organized March 30, 1785, and has an area of 27,041 acres. The town of Barnard, however, claims, and is now in possession of a strip of land, about half a mile in breadth, extending across the north end of the town, and this too under a charter derived from the same source, and dated seven days later than that of Bridgewater. The surface is uneven, and in some parts rough and stony. Along the river are tracts of valuable interval, and there are many good farms in other parts. There is an inexhaustible quarry of soapstone, situated nearly in the centre of the town, which has been manufactured to some extent, and makes excellent jambs and hearths. Iron ore is found in several places; and garnet, specimens of rock crystal, crystals of hornblende, and schorl, are common. Bridgewater is watered by Ottâ Quechee river (which runs through the south part), and by several of its branches, which afford numerous mill privileges. There are two villages — Bridgewater Corners and Centre Bridgewater; two church edifices — Congregational and Universalist; seventeen school districts, and one post-office: also, three grist-mills and one saw-mill. Population, 1,311; valuation, \$433,095.

BRIDPORT, in the western part of Addison county, on the shore of Lake Champlain, is forty-one miles from Montpelier, and was chartered by New Hampshire, October 10, 1761, to Ebenezer Wiswall and sixty-three others, most of whom were from Massachusetts. Philip Stone, the first permanent settler, came from Groton, Mass., in 1768. Ephraim Doolittle and Benjamin Raymond came early, and were very active in promoting the settlement of the town. A few families settled here under titles obtained from the government of New York, but they never had any trouble with their New Hampshire neighbors; on the contrary, they are said to have acquiesced in the rights of the New Hampshire settlers, and even sometimes to have assisted them in inflicting the customary punishment — laying on the "beech seal" — upon the backs of the contumacious officials from New York who refused to retire after the usual warning. In 1772, Ethan Allen, on one of his tours over the state,

stopped here for the night, in company with Eli Roberts of Vergennes, at the house of a Mr. Richards, who, by the way, held his possessions under a New York title. During the evening six soldiers from the garrison at Crown Point also stopped for the night, and, finding that Allen was here, determined to capture him and obtain the bounty that was offered for his apprehension. Mrs. Richards, overhearing them making arrangements for that purpose, took a light as if to show Allen and his friend to their lodgings; but on entering the room she raised a window, from which they made good their escape. When the soldiers discovered that they were gone, they reprimanded Mrs. Richards for favoring their flight. But she replied that it was for the safety of her house; for had they been taken here, the New Hampshire men would have torn it down over their heads. Fever and ague was a great scourge to the early settlers, cases of which are not unfrequent even now. The want of roads, and the difficulty of obtaining supplies of provisions, retarded the progress of the town very much; but the land was selling so cheap (only twenty dollars for three hundred and sixty acres) that the settlement continued to advance, although slowly, till the commencement of the Revolution. Even then the hope of a speedy close to the struggle induced most of the settlers to remain on their farms for the first two or three years, except on occasional alarms, when they retired into the counties of Rutland and Bennington. At one time a party of Indians entered the house of Mr. Stone, giving him but just time to escape; and, after stripping it of every thing of value to them, the ringleader put on the finest shirt it afforded, and, swaggering away to the sty, selected the best hog and officiated as chief butcher, flourishing his bloody sleeves, while his comrades, whooping and dancing, carried the hog away to their canoes. At another time a party of Indians coming up the bank were discovered by Mrs. Stone in season for her to throw some things out of a back window into the weeds, put a few articles in her bosom, and sit down to her carding. The Indians, after taking what they could find elsewhere, came about Mrs. Stone and the children. One of them, seeming to suspect that she had some valuable articles concealed about her person, attempted to pull them from her bosom, whereupon she struck him on the face with the teeth side of her card so violently that he withdrew his hand, while a tall young savage was flourishing his tomahawk over her head. Upon this an old Indian cried out, "Good squaw, good squaw," and burst into a laugh of derision at his companions for being beaten.

During the war there were two skirmishes in this town between some scouts, in which three or four men were killed. After the capture of Burgoyne, and three weeks before the British evacuated Ticonderoga, a

party from Otter creek came out in the night and plundered the house of a tory by the name of Prindle, who was a neighbor of Mr. Stone. Prindle, not owning the house, set it on fire; and, retreating on board a British armed vessel on the lake, implicated Mr. Stone in the robbery and burning. He, anticipating mischief, kept in the bushes near the bank to observe their movements, where the British discovered him and let off a volley of grape-shot, which struck among the trees above him; they also fired upon his house, some of the shot entering the room where the family were. They then sent a boat on shore, took Mr. Stone and carried him a prisoner to Ticonderoga, where he remained three weeks. Mrs. Stone, expecting he would be sent to Quebec, went to him in a canoe, a distance of twelve miles, with no other company than her brother, a lad only ten years old, to carry him clothes, leaving her two children, the oldest but four years old, alone at home. She had to tarry all night before she could gain admittance. On her return she found her children safe, the oldest having understood enough of her directions to feed and take care of the younger.

In 1778, the inhabitants, despairing of immediate peace, and being continually harassed, mostly abandoned the town. Nathan and Marshal Smith and John Ward remained. On the 4th of November, 1778, they were taken by a party of British under Major Carleton, who collected thirty-nine prisoners, men and boys, in this vicinity, to carry to Canada. He discharged two of the prisoners, Elijah Grandy and Thomas Shinkly, with a batteau to carry the women and children to the Americans, while he detained their fathers, husbands, and older sons. The parting scene was very affecting. Ward swung his hat, and cried to his wife and the rest, "Never mind it, we shall soon return." They reached Quebec, December 6, and were kept in prison sixteen months and nineteen days. In the spring, after two dreary winters, in which several of the party died, about forty of the prisoners, among whom were the two Smiths, Ward, and Sturdifit, were removed thirty leagues down the St. Lawrence river and set to work. From this place eight of the prisoners deserted, among whom were the four just named. Of these Sturdifit was retaken, and remained a prisoner till the close of the war. The other three, after almost incredible perseverance and sufferings and hair-breadth escapes, succeeded in making their way through the wilderness to the fort at Pittsford.

Bridport was organized March 29, 1784, and contains forty-two square miles. The surface is very level, and the soil generally is a brittle marl or clay. The hills are of loam and red, slaty sandstone. Water is not very abundant, and there are no durable mill streams. Most of the springs and the ground generally are impregnated with epsom salts, or sul-

phate of magnesia. For family use, rain water is generally employed, which is preserved in large reservoirs or cisterns set in the ground. Of the brackish water cattle are extremely fond, and it serves in a manner as a substitute for salt. Some of the springs are so strongly impregnated, that, in time of low water, a pailful will yield a pound of the salts. They were manufactured in considerable quantities as early as 1790; but the cheapness of the imported salts has prevented much being done at the business for some years. Bridport has a small but neat and pleasantly located village; three church edifices — Congregational, Baptist, and Methodist; twelve school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, and four saw-mills. Population, 1,393; valuation, \$600,070.

BRIGHTON lies in the western part of Essex county, about sixty miles from Montpelier, and was chartered August 13, 1781, to Colonel Joseph Nightingale of Providence, R. I., and sixty-four others. It was named Random by Hon. Joseph Brown, it having been a random purchase from an agent sent to Providence from Vermont. The name was changed to Brighton, November 3, 1832. The settlement, which is mostly in the westerly part, was commenced in April, 1824, by Enos Bishop. John Stevens, in 1826, was the second settler. The town was organized in March, 1832, and then contained 23,970 acres. November 23, 1853, a part of Wenlock (which then lost its existence as a town, the other part being added to Ferdinand) was annexed to Brighton, making its present territory about 39,000 acres. It is watered by Ferran's river, and the head branches of the Passumpsic, Clyde, and Nulhegan rivers, and by Island pond, which is about two miles long by a half-mile in average width. Its shores generally present a white beach of quartz sand, hard and smooth, capable of furnishing an unbroken drive of several miles. The pond abounds with the masquallonge (which resembles the pike), and other fine fish, and, being connected with Memphremagog lake, and by a series of lakes and streams with the St. Lawrence, it will probably long be a resort for amateurs in fishing. Many of the views in the vicinity are highly picturesque; and, from the summit of "Bonnybeag," on the north shore of the lake, overlooking the valley to the south, a beautiful landscape is presented. Not far off is the dividing ridge between the great waters, — Spectacle pond (so called from its fancied resemblance to a pair of spectacles), finding an outlet through the river Clyde, Magog lake, and St. Francis river, into the St. Lawrence, while the Nulhegan flows into the Connecticut, — the ocean receiving them more than a thousand miles apart.

The short portage between the pond and the boatable waters of the



Nulhegan bears marks of having been the route of the Indians in their annual pilgrimage between the great river and the sea. Traces of Indian encampments and of their trails through the woods still remain; and a point making out into the pond, now called the Old Man's Nose, bears evidence of its use as the seat of their council fires. This is clear of underbrush, and is overshadowed by a dense growth of ancient pines.

The importance of this town has been increased since the opening of the Grand Trunk Railway, in 1853. At Island pond is the half-way station-house, — 149 miles from Portland and 143 from Montreal, — where passengers dine, and pass the ordeal of the British inspection officers, as this is the last station before reaching Canada. The depot grounds are laid out on the most extensive scale, comprising an area of twenty acres, a spacious station-house, two large engine-houses with repair shops, and other necessary buildings. The region abounds in white-pine timber, and several saw-mills and shingle mills are in operation. There is a church edifice — Congregational. Population, 193; valuation, \$169,827.

BRISTOL is situated in the northeastern part of Addison county, twenty-five miles from Montpelier, and was chartered to Samuel Averill and his associates, by the name of Pocock, June 26, 1762. In October, 1762, the name was altered to the one it now bears. The settlement was commenced immediately after the Revolutionary war, by Samuel Stewart and Eden Johnson, who were soon joined by Benjamin Griswold, Cyprian, Calvin, and Jonathan Eastman, Justus Allen, and others.

The town was organized March 2, 1789, and contains about 26,000 acres. About one third of the land lies west of the Green Mountains, and is very level, rich, and productive. The remainder is broken, and a considerable part unfit for cultivation. A large mountain extends through the town from north to south, that part of it north of the Great Notch, through which New Haven river passes, being called the Hog Back, and that on the south being called South mountain. New Haven river enters from the southeast, and, before it reaches the centre of Bristol, receives Baldwin creek from the north. After passing the Notch and Bristol village, it runs some distance nearly south, and then turns to the west into New Haven. There are three natural ponds; the largest, called Bristol pond, being a mile and a half long and three fourths of a mile wide. A bed of iron ore has been opened, where there are two forges in operation, making annually about one hundred tons of wrought iron. Large quantities of sawed lumber are annually sent to market.

The village is near the centre of the town, upon New Haven river, immediately after it passes the Notch in the mountain, and is very pleasantly located. The greater part of it is accommodated by an aqueduct nearly four hundred rods in length, laid in water-lime. Bristol contains three religious societies, — Baptist, Methodist, and Congregationalist, each of which has meeting-houses; eleven school districts, an academy, and one post-office: also, two grist-mills, eleven saw-mills, one fulling-mill, one carding-machine, one foundery, and one plough factory. Population, 1,344; valuation, \$311,766.

BROOKFIELD, in the western part of Orange county, sixteen miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered August 5, 1781, to Phineas Lyman and his associates. The first settlement was begun in 1779, by Shubael Cross and family. Mrs. Cross was the first woman in the place, and on that account was presented by the proprietors with one hundred acres of land. Mr. Howard's family came in about the same time, and Caleb Martin, John Lyman, Jonathan Pierce, John and Noah Payne, and several others, came in soon after, most of whom emigrated from Connecticut. Captain Cross built the first grist and saw mill.

Brookfield was organized March 18, 1785, and contains thirty-six square miles. It lies nearly on the height of land between White and Winooski rivers. It is well watered with springs and brooks, but has no very good mill privileges. The principal stream is the second branch of White river. There are several considerable ponds, some of which afford streams a part of the year sufficient for mills and other machinery. Colt's pond, near the north village, is crossed by a floating bridge twenty-five rods long. Around and at the bottom of a small pond in the west part of the town is an inexhaustible quantity of a kind of marl, from which very good lime is manufactured. There are two villages — Brookfield and East Brookfield; five meeting-houses — two Baptist, two Congregational, and one Methodist; seventeen school districts, a female seminary, a town library of about six hundred volumes, four taverns, several stores, a fork manufactory with a capital of \$20,000; and two post-offices — Brookfield and East Brookfield. Population, 1,672; valuation, \$506,703.

BROOKLINE is a small town in the eastern part of Windham county, about eighty-five miles from Montpelier, and originally formed parts of the towns of Putney and Athens, from which it was set off and incorporated, October 30, 1794. The town was afterwards enlarged by receiving another small portion of the town of Putney, and also that part

of Newfane on the east side of West river. The settlement was commenced about the year 1777 by Cyrus Whitcomb, Jr., David Ayres, Samuel Skinner, and Jonah Moore. The families of Jotham Stebbins, Isaac Wellman, and Peter Benson, were early here. Jonathan Mansfield settled his family here during the Revolutionary war, enlisted in the American army, and at the close of the war took up his residence in the Northwest Territory. The surface of the town is mountainous; it is watered by Grassy brook, which flows through its entire length from north to south, and by West river, which forms its boundary for a short distance on the southwest. There are four school districts, and one post-office: also, one saw-mill and one grist-mill. There are two church edifices—one Baptist and one Union. Rev. Denzel M. Crane, now of Boston, distinguished for his eminent social qualities, as well as his eloquence as a preacher, is a native of this town. Population, 285; valuation, \$70,592.

BROWNINGTON, in the eastern part of Orleans county, forty-five miles from Montpelier, was granted February 26, 1782, and chartered, by the name of Brownington, October 2, 1790, to Timothy and David Brown and their associates. This was formerly a half shire town of the county, but the seat of justice is now at Irasburgh. The settlement of the town was commenced about the year 1796. It contains an area of 19,845 acres, and was organized March 28, 1799. Willoughby's river is the principal stream. The leading business is stock-raising. Some of the finest horses sent to the Boston market have been from this town. There are two church edifices—Congregational and Methodist; the Orleans county grammar-school; eight school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill and four saw-mills. Population, 613; valuation, \$137,200.

BRUNSWICK, Essex county, lies opposite to Stratford, N. H., and is fifty-five miles from Montpelier. It was chartered October 13, 1761, and the first settlement was commenced in the spring of 1780, by Joseph and Nathaniel Wait. John Merrill removed here the succeeding autumn. In 1791 the population was sixty-six, and so slow has been its advancement that it has not yet doubled that number. Brunswick contains 14,617 acres, or twenty-three square miles, and is watered by the west branch of Nulhegan river, which runs through the northwest part, uniting with the north branch in Bloomfield. Wheeler's stream, rising in Ferdinand, passes through the town into Connecticut river, affording several valuable mill privileges. Paul's stream, receiving its waters from Granby, Ferdinand, and Maidstone

lake, passes through the south part of Brunswick, and is a considerable mill stream. There are three natural ponds, one covering eighty acres, one sixty, and one twenty-five, the latter of which is only four or five rods from the bank of Connecticut river, and is elevated eighty feet above that stream. There is one post-office. Population, 119; valuation, \$73,895.

BURKE, in the northeast part of Caledonia county, forty-five miles from Montpelier, was chartered February 26, 1782, to Justus Rose, Uriah Seymour, and others. The settlement was commenced about the year 1790, by Lemuel and Ira Walter, Seth Spencer, and others, who came from Connecticut, and from the south part of this state. The town was organized December 5, 1796, and contains an area of 23,040 acres. A saw and grist mill was erected by Roman Fyler and his sons, about the year 1800, which was destroyed by fire the next year, but soon after rebuilt. In 1819, the same parties commenced the preparation of oil-stones, which were procured from a small island in Memphremagog lake. They are said to have been nearly or quite equal to the Turkey oil-stone, and there were annually sent to market of them some three or four tons. That part of the town called the Tongue was annexed to Kirby, October 28, 1807.

The surface of the town is uneven, but the only elevation of note is Burke mountain, which has an altitude of 3,500 feet, and can be seen from a great distance. Passumpsic river and its tributaries afford some good privileges. Burke has three villages — Burke Hollow, East Burke, and West Burke; three church edifices — one Baptist and two Union; ten school districts, in which schools are taught six months of the year; and three post-offices — Burke, East Burke, and West Burke: also, three grist-mills, eight saw-mills, two carriage shops; and two starch factories, in which large quantities are manufactured and sold annually. Population, 1,103; valuation, \$345,689.

BURLINGTON is the capital of Chittenden county, and is situated on the shore of Lake Champlain, thirty-five miles from Montpelier. It was granted by New Hampshire, June 7, 1763, to Samuel Willis and sixty-three others, and contained an area of thirty-six square miles; but in October, 1794, a tract comprising that part on the east side of Muddy brook was annexed to Williston, leaving the town an area of about twenty-six square miles. During the summer of 1775, some clearings were made on the interval north of the village, in the neighborhood of the falls, and two or three log huts were erected; but the commencement of the Revolution prevented any further progress, and no attempt was

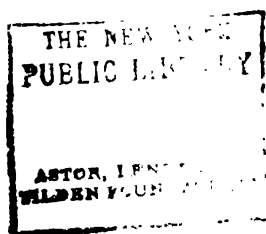
made to renew the settlement until the return of peace in 1783, when many of those who had made a beginning here returned, and, bringing others with them, soon effected a permanent settlement. Stephen Lawrence was the first who came with his family in that year. A number of other families moved in the same season, among whom were Frederick Saxton, Dubartus Willard, Simon Tubbs, and John Collins. The first town meeting on record was held March 19, 1787; but it is believed the town was organized one or two years previous. It was early made a port of entry, and its advantageous location rapidly secured control of the commerce of the lake, which it has ever since retained. The village, which soon sprang up on the east shore of Burlington bay, commanded the trade of an extensive section of country.

Burlington has very appropriately been called the "queen city of Vermont," for, although there is but one incorporated city (Vergennes), Burlington exhibits by far the largest population. Soon after the last census, several of the citizens, who were desirous of a city government, petitioned the legislature for an act of incorporation; and, at the session of 1852, two acts were passed, one for a village, and the other for a city organization, both of which the inhabitants refused to accept at the next town meeting. The business of the village is mostly mercantile and mechanical. The new Pioneer Mechanics' Shop, which was completed in 1853, was a capacious building four hundred feet long, fifty feet wide, and four stories high, and accommodated a great number of mechanics. It had two steam engines, and eight branches of business were carried on in the building. These works were burned in the great fire in the spring of 1858, but have been rebuilt upon a smaller scale. There are also three extensive wharves with store-houses, at which the greater part of the merchandise designed for the northwestern section of Vermont is landed.

The University of Vermont, located here, was the first college in the state. It was incorporated in 1791, but officers were not appointed nor a college edifice commenced before 1800. Its first class graduated in 1804. During the last war with Great Britain, the operations of the University were much embarrassed, and finally suspended. Arms were deposited in the building and a guard stationed there in 1813. A compulsory lease to the United States government was made in 1814, and the building was occupied by troops. After the war, in 1815, the buildings were put in repair, a new president was chosen, and the institution prospered for some years. Its financial affairs being again crippled in 1821, the faculty were upon the point of discontinuing the exercises; but, through the efforts of the students, the necessity was averted. In 1824, the college building,



Burlington.



with a portion of the library and apparatus, was burned. A considerable subscription was obtained the same year, and, on the 29th of June, 1825, the corner-stone of the present edifice, which still bears the record of that fact, was laid by General Lafayette. The three edifices (now united in one, a view of which is here given) cost about \$20,000. The medical department was not fully organized until 1822. The library contains thirteen thousand volumes. The number of graduates has reached 619. Rev. Daniel C. Sanders was the first president from 1800 to 1814. His successors have been Rev. Samuel Austin from 1815 to 1821; Rev. Daniel Haskell from 1821 to 1824; Rev. Willard Preston in 1825-6; Rev. James Marsh from 1826 to 1833; Rev. John Wheeler from 1833 to 1849; and Rev. Worthington Smith from 1849 to 1855; since which Rev. Calvin Pease has served. Besides the University, there are the Burlington Female Seminary, the Union High School, several select schools, and fourteen districts that support public schools. The other public buildings worthy of note are the court-house; town-house (built in 1854, at a cost of \$30,000); a custom-house, and post-office in the same building, costing \$40,000; a large United States Marine Hospital, erected in 1857; and seven church edifices — one Congregational, one Methodist, one Episcopal, one Unitarian, one Baptist, and two Roman Catholic. There are also four banks, with an aggregate capital of \$600,000. The village is accessible by steam from all directions, it being the terminus of the Rutland and Burlington, and the Vermont Central Railroads, and the connecting point between the former and the Vermont and Canada Railroad, and the landing for steamers that ply on the lake. A light-house has been erected on Juniper island, at the entrance of Burlington bay; and a breakwater has been erected at the expense of the general government.

Burlington has been the residence, and furnished the burial-place, of some of the ablest men of the state. The remains of Ethan Allen were deposited in the Green Mount Cemetery, in a part appropriated to the use of the Allen family; and without doubt they still lie there. A Tuscan column of granite, forty-two feet high, designed by George P. Marsh, with an inscription<sup>1</sup> by John N. Pomeroy, has been erected upon the spot, by the state, at a cost of \$2,000. This is to be surmounted with a colossal statue of the hero. In the same inclosure are the remains of General Ira Allen, and Hon. Heman Allen, member of congress from this district, and at one period United States minister to Chili. Burlington was the home of Zadock Thompson, who devoted his useful life to the study of the natural history of the state, and col-

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix C.



lected one of the largest private cabinets in this country, whose compensation in life went but little beyond the honor derived from toil and research, and who has left to the world the fruits of his industrious career in the "Natural, Civil, and Statistical History of Vermont." Mr. Thompson died in December, 1856. Doctor John Pomeroy established himself here as a physician and surgeon in 1792, and was the most distinguished practitioner in this part of the state for more than forty years. He died here February 19, 1844. This town is also the place of residence of Hon. George P. Marsh, who was minister at Constantinople under the administrations of Taylor and Fillmore, and



University of Vermont.

who, besides ranking among the ablest diplomatists, is one of the most distinguished of living linguists. Here also resides the humorous poet, John G. Saxe, whose presence has enlivened many a college commencement, centennial or fourth of July celebration. The scenery about Burlington is romantic. The dome of the University is the best place from which to obtain a good view of the surrounding country. The village is all around you, like the city of Boston from the dome of the state-house. On the west is the lake, with its bays and islands, its steamboats and sloops. On the north are Winooski village and Winooski river, the latter dashing through frightful chasms, and then winding its way through verdant and beautiful meadows and among the more remote hills, dales, farms, and woodlands. Last of all is the

circuit of lofty mountains, whose peaks and summits form the grand outline, and render the prospect one of the most delightful the country affords. The village of Winooski, divided by the Winooski river, a mile and a half from Burlington village, lying partly in Burlington and partly in Colchester, contains about one thousand inhabitants. The view of Burlington, given opposite, is taken upon the side where the Rutland and Burlington Railroad enters the town. Population in 1850, 7,585, which it is thought now amounts to 10,000; valuation, \$2,149,990.

CABOT, in the eastern part of Washington county, eighteen miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered August 17, 1781, to Jesse Levingsworth and sixty-five others. The settlement was commenced on what is called Cabot Plain, in April, 1785, by James Bruce, Edward Chapman, Jonathan Heath, and Benjamin Webster, with their families. The town was organized March 29, 1788, and contains an area of 22,485 acres. The surface is generally uneven, and the soil hard. Cabot has obtained considerable notoriety as a sugar-making town, 120,592 pounds having been manufactured in 1857. This amount would give to each inhabitant about eighty-nine pounds, and to each family of six persons 533½ pounds. Estimating the value of the crop at ten cents per pound, it would produce the sum of \$12,059.

Fifield Lyford, a resident of this town, died here April 18, 1846, at the age of eighty-four years. When but thirteen years of age he entered the Revolutionary army as servant to his father, Lieutenant Thomas Lyford, remained with him one year, separated from him at Ticonderoga, and went to West Point, where he served as one of the lifeguard to Benedict Arnold, and continued in the army until the close of the war. The late Zerah Colburn, who, at the age of five or six, astonished the world by his extraordinary powers of computation, was a native of this town.

Cabot is watered by some of the tributaries of the Winooski, which afford several mill privileges. Joe's and Molly's ponds lie in the northeast part. The waters of the former have their outlet into the Passumpsic river, thence into the Connecticut, while those of the latter pass by Winooski river into Lake Champlain. There are two villages — Cabot and Lower Branch; three church edifices — Methodist, Congregational, and Second Advent; fourteen school districts, and the same number of schools, and one post-office: also, one woollen factory, one tin and sheet-iron factory, two starch mills, two carriage shops, one boot and shoe manufactory, one grist-mill, and nine saw-mills. Population, 1,356; valuation, \$473,672.

CALAIS, in the north part of Washington county, adjoins Montpelier on the south. It was granted October 21, 1780, and chartered August 15, 1781, to Jacob Davis, Stephen Fay, and fifty-eight others. The principal proprietors and first settlers were from Charlton, Mass., and its vicinity. In the summer of 1783, the proprietors sent a committee, consisting of Colonel Jacob Davis, Captain Samuel Robinson, and others, to survey lots for settlers. The committee and the surveyor found their way to Calais with their necessary stores; and, after running four lines on the north side of the first division, they abandoned the survey. In August, 1786, Captain Samuel Robinson, E. Waters, J. Tucker, E. Stone, and General Parley Davis, came from Charlton to complete the survey. The settlement was commenced in the spring of 1787 by Francis West from Plymouth county, Mass., who located on a lot adjoining Montpelier. The first permanent settlers, however, were Abijah, Asa, and Peter Wheelock, who started from Charlton June 5, 1787, with a wagon, provisions, and tools, drawn by four oxen, and arrived at Williamstown, within twenty-one miles of Calais, on the 19th of the same month. They had hitherto found the roads almost impassable, and here they were obliged to leave their wagon; and, taking a few necessary articles upon a sled, they proceeded towards this town, cutting their way and building causeways as they passed along. After a journey of two days, and encamping two nights in the woods, they arrived at Winooski river, where Montpelier village is now situated. Here Colonel Jacob Davis had commenced clearing land, and had erected a small log hut. They left their oxen here to graze in the meadows and proceeded to Calais, where they commenced a resolute attack upon the forest, and returned to Charlton in October. Francis West left with them, and returned the following spring, as did also Abijah and Peter Wheelock, accompanied by Moses Stone. In the year 1788, these settlers erected log houses; and the same year the Wheelocks and Mr. Stone returned to Massachusetts to spend the winter, while Mr. West went to Middlesex.

In February or March, 1789, Francis West moved his family on to his farm; and about the same time Abijah Wheelock with his family, Moses Stone, Samuel Twiss, accompanied by Colonel Davis from Charlton, arrived at Colonel Davis's house in Montpelier with several teams. Davis's house was a mere rude hut, constructed of logs twenty feet in length, with but one apartment, and this on their arrival they found to be occupied by several families, emigrants from Peterboro', N. H. In that mansion of felicity there dwelt, for about a fortnight, three families with children in each, one man and his wife recently married, three single gentlemen, and a young lady; and among the happy

group were some of the first settlers of Calais. On the 13th of April, racket paths having been previously broken, Messrs. Wheelock, Twiss, and Stone prepared hand-sleds, loaded thereon their beds and some light articles of furniture, and, accompanied by Mrs. Wheelock, Mrs. Twiss, and General Davis, proceeded to this town over snow three feet in depth, Mrs. Wheelock travelling the whole distance on foot and carrying in her arms an infant four months old, while their son, about two years of age, was drawn upon the hand-sled. Mrs. Twiss also performed the same journey on foot, making use of her broom for a walking-stick. They arrived in safety the same day. A large rock, now in the orchard on the farm owned by Deacon Joshua Bliss, once formed the end and fireplace to the log cabin of the first settlers of Calais. In September of the same year, 1789, Peter Wheelock moved his family, consisting of a wife and six children, to this town. In 1790, James Jennings arrived with a family. In 1793, the first saw-mill and grist-mill were erected near the centre of the town, by J. Davis, of Montpelier, and Samuel Twiss. During this and the succeeding year, considerable additions were made to the settlement. The first settlers of Calais located themselves at some distance from each other, and it was not uncommon for a woman to travel several miles to visit a neighbor, returning home after dark through the woods, brandishing a firebrand to enable her to discover the marked trees. For one or two years the settlers brought the grain for the support of their families, and for seed, from Williamstown, Brookfield, and Royalton, a distance of thirty miles or more. After they began to raise grain they had to carry it fifteen miles to mill.

Calais was organized March 23, 1795, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is somewhat uneven, but very little of it so broken as to be incapable of cultivation. It is watered by two branches of the Winooski river, which afford a great number of valuable privileges for mills and machinery. There are also numerous springs and brooks. Long pond, which lies in the northwest part, is noted for its immense quantities of trout. There are several other beautiful ponds. There are three small villages — Moscow, No. 10, and Kent's Corner; two Union meeting-houses, occupied by Universalists, Christian Brethren, and Methodists; fourteen school districts, and two post-offices — Calais and East Calais: also, five grist-mills, five saw-mills, two carriage shops, one machine-shop, one shoe shop, and one starch-mill. Population, 1,410; valuation, \$410,448.

CALEDONIA COUNTY is bounded on the north by Orleans county, east by Essex county and Connecticut river, south by Orange, and west by Washington and Lamoille counties. It was taken from Orange

county by act of November 8, 1796, and then included Essex and a part of Orleans; but upon the establishment of those counties in 1797 was reduced to its present territory, containing about seven hundred square miles. Danville was made the shire town. An act was passed November 12, 1855, authorizing the appointment of a committee to select a new county seat at some point in the valley of the Passumpsic, between Stevens's village in Barnet and the Centre village in Lyndon, the result of which is, that St. Johnsbury is now the shire town. There are sixteen towns, Cabot having been taken from this and annexed to Washington county, November 12, 1855. The annual session of the supreme court commences in August, and the terms of the county courts are in June and December. The Passumpsic, and some smaller tributaries of the Connecticut, water the east part of the county, and the Winooski is formed in the west part. The eastern range of Green Mountains extends through the western part. The valleys of the Passumpsic and Connecticut afford excellent farming lands; and the railroad taking its name from those rivers is completed through the entire county. Population, 23,595; valuation, \$6,055,577.

CAMBRIDGE, situated in the western part of Lamoille county, thirty miles northwest from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered August 13, 1781, to Samuel Robinson, John Fasset, Jr., Jonathan Frost, and seventy-three others. The first settler was John Safford, from Piermont, N. H., who arrived May 8, 1783, and planted two acres of corn, which was overflowed with water in the fall, and nearly all destroyed. He moved his family, consisting of a wife and two children, into town in November following. In 1784, Amos Fasset, Stephen Kinsley, John Fasset, Jr., and Samuel Montague, came here with their families from Bennington, as did also Noah Chittenden, from Arlington, Vt. Thirty-five persons spent the second winter here; and, in 1785, their numbers were increased by the arrival of David Safford and others from Bennington. At this time there were no inhabitants, nor was there any road between this and Hazen's road in Craftsbury, and they who came from Bennington had to cut their way for ten miles through the woods. The first settlers brought their provisions with them, and, when these were exhausted, they resorted to the forests and the streams. The first improvements were made on the flats along the Lamoille, the waters of which frequently swept away the products of the farms.

Cambridge was organized March 29, 1785, and contains 28,533 acres. The surface is uneven, and in some parts rough. The land is, however, generally good; and, on the river, are about 5,000 acres of valuable

interval. The river Lamoille enters on the east side, one mile from the northeast corner; and after running a serpentine course of twelve miles, in which it receives North branch from the north, and Brewster's river and Seymour's brook from the south, passes the west line, one mile from the southwest corner. These streams afford numerous mill privileges. A branch of Dead creek, a tributary of Missisco river, rises here, and another branch of this creek issues from Metcalf pond in Fletcher, and runs across the northwest corner of this town. There are two villages—Jeffersonville and the Borough, the former situated on the south side of the river Lamoille, and the latter on the north side of the same river; three church edifices—Congregational, Methodist, and Union; eighteen school districts with sixteen schools; and three post-offices—Cambridge Borough, Jeffersonville, and North Cambridge: also, one woollen manufactory, one tannery, and several mills and mechanic shops. Population, 1,849; valuation, \$612,966.

CANAAN, in the northeast corner of Essex county, and at the northeastern extremity of the state, was granted to William Williams, Jonathan and Arad Hunt, and others. It was chartered to John Wheeler and others, February 25, 1782; and, October 23, 1801, Norfolk, which had been chartered to Bezaleel Woodward in 1782, was annexed to it. The first settlers were Silas Sargeant, John Hugh, and Hubbard Spencer, who removed their families into Canaan in 1785. Canaan, being a frontier town, was subject to considerable disturbance during the last war with Great Britain. In September, 1813, Samuel Beach, who had business in Canada, was killed by John Dennett, while endeavoring to recover his team, which had been taken by Dennett and others when on its way into Canada. This township contains about twenty-nine square miles, possessing some fine interval on the Connecticut, and much good land in other parts. It is well watered by Leach's stream and Willard's brook, which afford good mill privileges. The former is two rods wide at its junction with the Connecticut; and Leeds pond, from which it issues, is partly in Canada. Canaan has one village—Canaan Corner; eight school districts, one post-office, and two stores. The religious denominations are Congregationalists, Methodists, and Free-will Baptists. Population, 471; valuation, \$97,414.

CASTLETON, in the central part of Rutland county, sixty miles from Montpelier, was granted to Samuel Brown, of Stockbridge, Mass., September 22, 1761. Colonel Amos Bird, of Salisbury, Conn., became the largest proprietor, and, in company with Colonel Noah Lee, made

the first surveys in June, 1766. The first dwelling-house was erected in August, 1769, of which Colonel Lee and his servant were the sole inhabitants the following winter. In 1770, Ephraim Buel, Eleazer Bartholemew, and Zadock Remington arrived with their families. The first inhabitants emigrated chiefly from Connecticut.

The enterprise and worth of Colonels Bird and Lee entitle them to a prominent place in the early history of Castleton. The former died in the midst of active, benevolent exertions for the infant settlement, September 16, 1762. His solitary monument on the banks of Castleton river, and an isolated mountain in the southeast corner of the town, are memorials of the name of a man still remembered for his worth. Colonel Lee was vigilant and active amidst the hardships and dangers which were encountered by the first settlers under the government of New Hampshire and the "council of safety," and the vexatious embarrassments consequent to the claim of jurisdiction by the state of New York. At the commencement of the contest for American independence, he entered the army with a commission, and, after sharing in its toils and honors, the return of peace brought him again to the bosom of his family. Possessing a vigorous constitution, he continued long to witness the rising greatness of his country, and to enjoy the benefits for which he had toiled. He died in May, 1840, aged ninety-seven years.

During the Revolutionary war the people of Castleton were often alarmed, and the town was once invaded by the British and Indians. On the 6th of July, 1777, General Fraser sent a detachment under command of Captain Fraser, who attacked by surprise about twenty militia, posted near the present site of the village, under the command of Captain Wells. Captain Williams, a volunteer, of Guilford, Vt., was killed, and Captain Hall, of Castleton, mortally wounded; while his son, Lieutenant Hall, and some others, were taken prisoners and carried to Ticonderoga. Lieutenant Hall, with his brother and a Mr. Kellogg, made their escape from the fort, recrossed the lake in a canoe by night, and, after great privations, eluded their savage pursuers and returned to their homes. On the spot where Williams fell, a fort was erected the ensuing year, which was furnished with two pieces of cannon, and garrisoned under different commanders until the return of peace. The graves of about thirty soldiers, whose names have long been forgotten by their countrymen, are still visible near the site of the fort.

Castleton was organized in March, 1777, and contains 23,040 acres. There is considerable variety in the soil. Small quantities of secondary limestone are found here; and in the western part of the town a valuable slate quarry has been opened, which is wrought with considerable

success. Lake Bombazine lies principally in Castleton, its northern extremity extending a short distance into Hubbardton. It lies in a basin of rocks, which in some parts is of great depth, and is eight miles long, its greatest breadth being two and a half miles. An island, containing about ten acres, is situated near the centre of this lake, which, being provided with a grove and a cottage, is a pleasant summer resort for parties of pleasure. The outlet of the lake, at its southern extremity, has sufficient fall and volume to propel a large amount of machinery; and here is situated a small village, known by the name of Hydeville. Castleton river furnishes considerable water power, which, since the introduction of steam power, is not made available to the extent which its capacity affords.

Castleton village is pleasantly situated on the southern bank of Castleton river, on a level plain, elevated about thirty feet above the stream. In the village are three houses of worship — Congregational, Methodist, and Roman Catholic; a town-house; the Castleton Medical College (a view of which is here given); and the Castleton Seminary. The college edifice is an unpretending structure, situated on the north side of Main street, in the westerly part of the village. This institution was chartered in 1818, by the name of the Castleton Medical Academy, which was changed, in 1822, to the Vermont Academy of Medicine, and again, in 1841, to its present name. It is justly noted for having educated some of the most distinguished men of the medical profession now practising in different parts of the country. There are ten school districts, and three post-offices — Castleton, West Castleton, and Hydeville. The Rutland and Washington, and Saratoga and Washington Railroads pass through Castleton. Population, 3,016; valuation, \$1,056,399.



Castleton Medical College.

CAVENDISH, Windsor county, about sixty miles from Montpelier, was granted by the governor of New Hampshire, October 12, 1761, and afterwards regranted by the governor of New York, June 16, 1772. The settlement was commenced in the north part, in June, 1769, by Captain John Coffein, at whose hospitable dwelling the Revolutionary soldiers received refreshments while passing from Charlestown, N. H.,



to the military posts on Lake Champlain, nearly the whole distance being at that time a wilderness. On the farm now the residence of James Smith, in the northwesterly part of the town, twenty miles from Charlestown, was another stopping place, called the "Twenty miles encampment." In 1771, Noadiah Russell and Thomas Gilbert joined Captain Coffein in the settlement, and shared with him in his wants and privations,—struggling hard for several years for a scanty and precarious subsistence. The grinding of a single grist of corn was known to have cost sixty miles of travel. Captain Coffein lived to see the town settled and organized, and always took an active part in its public concerns. The first settlers came principally from Westford, Mass. There is a monument in this town, erected to commemorate one of the events of the old French and Indian wars. The Indians, on one of their predatory excursions, having made several prisoners in Charlestown, N. H., fled with them to Canada, and encamped August 30, 1754, within the limits of this town, where one of the captive women, a Mrs. Johnson, gave birth to a daughter. The Indians compelled her to take up her line of march over the Green mountains, a distance of two hundred miles, to Canada. The daughter was named *Captive*, in commemoration of the circumstances of her birth.

Cavendish was probably organized about May, 1781. It was originally about seven miles square; but, in 1793, three thousand acres were set off from the southeast corner, and constituted a separate township by the name of Baltimore. Hon. Asaph Fletcher moved into Cavendish from Westford, Mass., in 1787. He was a physician, but served the town for many years in the legislature; he was also one of the council of state, and, for some years towards the latter part of his life, one of the judges of the county court. Ryland Fletcher, the late governor of the state, Hon. Richard Fletcher of Boston, an eminent counsellor, and lately an associate justice of the supreme court of Massachusetts, and Rev. Horace Fletcher of Townshend, sons of Asaph, were also natives of Cavendish.

The soil is easy and generally fertile. Black river, which runs from west to east, and Twenty-mile stream, which runs in a southerly direction and unites with it near White's mills, are the principal streams. Along these are some small tracts of fine interval. The greatest curiosity in the town, and perhaps the greatest of the kind in the state, is at the falls on Black river, which are situated between Dutton's village and White's mills. Here the channel of the river has been worn down one hundred feet, and rocks of very large dimensions have been undermined and thrown down, one upon another. Holes are worn into the rocks, of various sizes and forms. Some of them are cylindrical, from

one to eight feet in diameter, and from one to fifteen feet in depth ; others are of a spherical form, from six to twenty feet in diameter, worn almost perfectly smooth into the solid body of the rock. Hawks mountain, which separates Baltimore from this town, derives its name from Colonel Hawks, who, during the French and Indian wars, encamped thereon for the night with a small regular force, among whom was General (then Captain) John Stark. Some traces of their route are still to be seen. One mile northwest from Proctorsville are extensive quarries of serpentine. The serpentine receives a high polish, and is considered equal in beauty, and superior in quality, to the Egyptian marble, as it possesses the rare virtue of being unaffected by heat or acids. It makes most excellent and elegant fire-jambs, centre and pier tables ; and quantities have been sent to Boston and New York markets, where they have found a ready sale. There are two villages — Cavenish and Proctorsville, with a post-office at each ; three church edifices — Universalist, Baptist, and Methodist ; and ten school-districts : also, two woollen manufactories, the one employing seventy-five and the other thirty-five hands, and manufacturing broadcloths and cassimeres ; several saw-mills, grist-mills, rake-making, carriage-making, and other mechanical establishments. Population, 1,576 ; valuation, \$720,288.

CHARLESTON, in the eastern part of Orleans county, fifty miles from Montpelier, was granted on the 6th, and chartered on the 10th, of November, 1780, to the "Hon. Abraham Whipple, and sixty-three of his shipmates," and some others. Commodore Whipple was a distinguished naval officer in the Revolutionary war, and he called the town Navy, in honor of the American navy. This name, however, was altered to Charleston, November 6, 1825. The settlement was commenced in 1803, by Andrew McGaffey and family, from Lyndon. In July, Abner Allyn moved in with his family, which was the second in town. In 1804, Joseph Seavey and family arrived, being followed the next year by Orin Percival and his family.

Charleston was organized March 18, 1806, and contains 23,040 acres. The soil is a rich loam, and produces good crops. The principal stream is Clyde river, on which there are some falls of consequence, particularly the "Great Falls," where the descent is more than one hundred feet in forty rods ; but the current of the river elsewhere is slow. The alluvial flats along this stream are extensive, but generally too low and wet for cultivation. In the northeast part, there are one thousand acres of bog meadow. Several considerable ponds lie here, of which Echo pond, in the northern part, is the most important. It was named by General J. Whitelaw, on account of the succession of echoes reverberated from its

shores. The stream which discharges the waters of Seymour's lake, in Morgan, into Clyde river, passes through this pond, on the outlet of which mills are erected. Pension pond also lies in the course of Clyde river. There are two small villages situated upon this river, about six miles apart, designated as East Charleston and West Charleston, at each of which there is a post-office. The town has four church edifices — Congregationalist, Universalist, Freewill Baptist, and Union; and eleven school districts: also, two starch factories, one tannery, seven saw-mills, and six stores. Population, 1,008; valuation, \$272,201.

CHARLOTTE, in the southwest corner of Chittenden county, on the eastern shore of Lake Champlain, and ten miles south from Burlington, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 24, 1762, to Benjamin Ferris and sixty-four others; but no permanent settlement was made here until 1784, when Derick Webb and Elijah Woolcut moved in with their families, and were immediately followed by several other families. A town government was organized March 13, 1787. John McNeil, who was one of the early settlers, located himself, in 1790, on the shore of the lake, across which, having the advantage of a good harbor, he established a ferry to Essex, N. Y., which has ever since been known as "McNeil's ferry." Charlotte is pleasantly situated. Laplot river flows through the northeast, and Lewis creek through the southeast corner. There are no elevations which deserve the name of mountains, but a range of hills runs through the town from north to south. In 1847, a remarkable fossil was found in this town by the workmen who were widening an excavation for the track of the Rutland and Burlington Railroad. Having struck upon a quantity of bones about eight feet below the surface, which, they remarked, were probably the remains of a dead horse buried there, very little notice was taken of them, until the overseer, observing something very peculiar in their construction, was induced to examine them more carefully, upon which they were discovered to belong to a skeleton of some unknown animal. Such of the bones as had not been broken up by the pickaxes and removed by the cartmen were collected and sent to Burlington, to be examined by Professor Zadock Thompson, who pronounced them to belong to the family of *Cetacea*. This decision was afterwards confirmed by Professor Agassiz, of Cambridge, upon comparison of the structure of this animal with one discovered by Doctor Hamlin in Bangor, in 1856, who declared them to belong to the same family.

Charlotte has three villages — the Four Corners, Milton Hill, and Baptist Corners; three church edifices — Methodist, Congregational, and Baptist; fifteen school districts, and one post-office: also, several saw

and grist mills, and one carriage factory. Population, 1,634; valuation, \$615,879.

**CHELSEA**, near the centre of Orange county, twenty miles from Montpelier, is the shire town. It was granted to Bela Turner and seventy others, November 2, 1780, and chartered by the name of Turnersburgh, August 4, 1781, which name was altered to Chelsea, October 13, 1788. Improvements were commenced in the spring of 1784, by Thomas and Samuel Moore and Asa Bond, who, the next spring, brought in their families from Winchester, N. H. They were soon joined by others from different parts of New England. The first settlers brought all their furniture and provisions on their backs from Tunbridge, nine miles distant, in which place their nearest neighbors resided. The first house was erected in the present burying-ground by Thomas Moore, and was burned to the ground in September, 1785, about four months after it was occupied.

Chelsea was organized March 31, 1788, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is quite hilly, but the soil is mostly of good quality. The town is drained by a branch of White river, on which the village is situated. The village contains two churches—Congregational and Methodist; a court-house, a jail, the Orange County Bank, with a capital of \$50,000; a fire insurance company, a large school-house, the Chelsea Academy, new and flourishing; and a large hotel. There are eighteen school districts, one post-office, two grist-mills, a china-ware factory, a woollen factory, two wagon shops, two harness-makers, and a tannery. Population, 1,958; valuation, \$579,846.

**CHESTER**, in the south part of Windsor county, about seventy miles direct from Montpelier, and 117 by railroad, was first chartered by the government of New Hampshire, February 22, 1754, to John Baldrige and others, by the name of Flamstead. No settlements ever having been made under this grant, the charter was declared forfeited, and a second charter was issued by New Hampshire, November 3, 1761, to Daniel Hayward and his associates, in seventy-four equal shares, by the name of New Flamstead, under which the proprietors held various meetings in other towns and states, but none were held here. Thomas Chandler obtained for himself and thirty-sixty others, July 14, 1766, a charter from the government of New York, which made the third issued, and in which the town took the name of Chester. Under the second charter, in 1764, Thomas Chandler had moved here with his family from Walpole, N. H., and was soon followed by Jabez Sargeant, Edward Johnson, Isaiah Johnson, Charles Mann, William Warner, Ichabod Ide,

and Ebenezer Holton, from Woodstock, Conn., and from Worcester and Malden, Mass. Upon the organization of Cumberland county by New York, comprising what is now Windsor and Windham, Chester was made the shire town, and a court-house and jail were built. Colonel Thomas Chandler, an ardent loyalist, was a principal man here for many years. He was a person of quick apprehension, violent temper, and hasty in his movements. He was judge of the county court, and by his arbitrary and imperious decisions made more enemies than friends. He entertained a haughty contempt for the people, who in turn very naturally hated him. His friendship for the government of New York, together with his advocacy of its policy, and a total disregard of the feelings of those who differed from him in opinion, was, without doubt, the cause of the riot and massacre at Westminster, where he afterwards lived and died. But his son, Thomas Chandler, retrieved the reputation of his family name by his opposition to his father's policy. He was conspicuous in the formation of the state government, was one of the commissioners of confiscated estates, a judge of the first supreme court, and first secretary of state. Rev. Aaron Leland was as prominent in politics as in religion, and filled several offices of trust in town, county, and state. From town clerk he became representative in the general assembly, judge of the county court, speaker of the house of representatives, and lastly, lieutenant-governor of the state. Daniel Heald, who settled here in 1776, served a short time in the Revolutionary army. He was at the battle at Concord bridge, and at Ticonderoga; and died here in 1833, in the ninety-fifth year of his age. A very interesting point in the history of the town is found in the fact, that since 1779, a period of nearly eighty years, four men only have held the office of town clerk, three of whom have been father, son, and grandson,—Daniel, Amos, and Prescott Heald, who have held the office fifty-two years;—Daniel from 1779 to 1799; Amos from 1826 to 1849; and Prescott since that time. Rev. Aaron Leland was clerk from 1799 to 1826.

The surface is diversified with hills and valleys, the latter of which are very fertile. There are two villages, situated about half a mile apart, called North and South Chester. The town contains four church edifices—Congregational, Baptist, Methodist, and Universalist; twenty school districts, with nineteen schools; an academy, incorporated in 1814; and three post-offices—Chester, North Chester, and Gassett's Station: also, one woollen factory, with a capital of \$6,000, and annually consuming about 40,000 pounds of wool; one chair factory, with a capital of \$3,600; and the Chester Boot Company, with a capital of \$5,000. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through the north village. Population, 2,001; valuation, \$864,014.

CHITTENDEN, in the northeast part of Rutland county, forty miles from Montpelier, was granted on the 14th and chartered on the 16th of March, 1780, to Gershom Beach and sixty-five others, then containing 26,872 acres. The town was named in honor of Governor Thomas Chittenden. The southerly half of the township of Philadelphia, containing about 11,000 acres, was annexed to Chittenden, November 2, 1816; and a small portion was taken from this town, October 29, 1829, and added to Sherburne. The first settlement was made soon after the Revolutionary war. The town was organized March 30, 1789.

The most distinguished man who has resided here was Aaron Beach, who fought under Wolfe on the heights of Abraham, and served his country through the war of the Revolution. He was prevented only by the solicitations of his friends from being, at his advanced age, with the Green Mountain Boys in the battle of Plattsburg.

The northwest part is watered by Philadelphia river, and the southwest part by East creek. Near Philadelphia river is a mineral spring, and among the mountains are some caverns, but they are of little importance. Iron ore is found here in abundance, and also manganese. About six hundred tons of the iron ore is got out annually, much of which is melted at the works of the Pittsford Iron Company. The town has two villages — North and South Chittenden; three church edifices — Episcopal Methodist, Wesleyan Methodist, and Congregational, the last of which is not, at present, occupied; nine school districts, and two post-offices — Chittenden and South Chittenden. Population, 675; valuation, \$253,437.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY was incorporated from Addison county, which was but two years its senior, October 22, 1787; and then embraced, besides its present territory, what now makes up the counties of Lamoille, Grand Isle, Franklin, and parts of Washington and Orleans, and so remained until 1796, when it received substantially its present limits. Its area is about five hundred square miles, which is divided into fifteen incorporated towns. The surface in the eastern part is mountainous, on the lake shore level, and in the middle more or less uneven. Along the valleys of the Lamoille and Winooski, which pass through the north and middle of the county, the soil is quite productive. The Laplot flows through the southern part. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through the west part along the lake, and the Vermont Central along the Winooski across the county, both connecting by a short branch at Burlington, which is the shire town. The supreme court sits here in January, and the terms of the county courts commence in March and September. Population, 29,036; valuation, \$7,851,761.

CLARENDON, in the central part of Rutland county, fifty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, September 5, 1761, to Caleb Willard and others, embracing in its limits a part or the whole of two former grants from New York, — Socialborough and Durham, — under which, however, no settlement had been made. It contained seventy shares, or 23,600 acres. The settlement was commenced in 1768 by Elkanah Cook, who was joined the same year by Randal Rice, Benjamin Johns, and others. The first settlers were mostly from Rhode Island, and purchased their lands of Colonel Lideus, who claimed them under a title derived from the Indians. This title was, however, never confirmed by either of the colonial governments, and the diversity of claimants occasioned much litigation, which continued till 1785, when the legislature passed what was called the quieting act. By it the settlers were put in peaceable possession of their lands, and the New Hampshire title to the lands not settled was confirmed. In consequence of these proceedings, there are no public lots in town. The first town meeting on record was in the year 1778. The east part borders on the Green Mountains, but the principal elevations are the range of hills between Otter creek and Furnace brook, and between the latter and Ira brook on the west line. The alluvial flats on Otter creek are from a half mile to a mile wide, and are very productive. The uplands are a gravelly loam. Otter creek runs through the town a little east of the centre, and receives Mill river and Cold river from the east, which afford numerous sites for mills and machinery.

Near Furnace brook are situated the Clarendon springs. It is now about thirty-two years since the springs began to be known beyond their immediate neighborhood. Since that time, their reputation has been annually extending, till they have at length become a place of considerable resort for the afflicted from various parts of the country. They are situated in a picturesque and beautiful region, seven miles southwest from Rutland, and have in their immediate vicinity good accommodations for five hundred visitors. The Clarendon cave is situated in the westerly part of the town, on the southeasterly side of a mountain. The descent into it is through a passage two and a half feet in diameter and thirty-one feet in length, which makes an angle of thirty-five or forty degrees with the horizon. It then opens into a room twenty feet long, twelve and a half wide, and eighteen or twenty feet high. The floor, sides, and roof of this room are all of solid rock, but very rough and uneven. From the north part of this room is a passage about three feet in diameter and twenty-four feet in length, but very rough and irregular, which leads to another room twenty feet wide, thirty feet long, and eighteen feet high. This room, being situated much lower than the

first, is usually filled with water in the spring of the year, and water stands in the lower part at all seasons. Very good marble is found in the vicinity of this cave. Dairying is one of the leading pursuits, and wool, grain, and potatoes are the principal articles of export. There are four villages — North Flats, South Flats, Chippenhook, and Clarendon Springs; three church edifices — Congregational, Baptist, and Universalist; fifteen school districts; and four post-offices — Clarendon, Clarendon Springs, East Clarendon, and North Clarendon: also, two grist-mills, and three saw-mills. The Rutland and Burlington and the Western Vermont Railroads pass through Clarendon. Population, 1,477; valuation, \$625,254.

COLCHESTER, Chittenden county, on the east side of Lake Champlain, thirty-six miles from Montpelier, was chartered to Edward Burling and sixty-six others, June 7, 1763, in seventy shares, containing thirty-six square miles, with its present name; but, from the fact that among the grantees there were ten by the name of Burling, it is supposed that Burlington was the name originally intended for it. The settlement was commenced in 1774, at the lower falls on Winooski or Onion river, by Ira Allen and Remember Baker. Baker's family, consisting of himself, wife, and three children, was the first in town. In 1775, Joshua Staunton began improvements on the interval above the narrows in that river, and there was a small clearing made at Mallet's bay before the Revolution. From the spring of 1776, the settlers abandoned the place till after the close of the war in 1783, when Messrs. McClain, Low, and Boardman settled on Colchester Point, and General Allen returned and renewed the settlement at the falls. Allen erected mills, a forge, and a shop for making anchors, and the place soon assumed the appearance of a considerable village.

Colchester was organized about the year 1791, but the first meeting on record was held March 18, 1793. The soil in the north and north-western parts has a variety of gravel and loam; in the middle part is a large tract of pine plain; and on the banks of the Winooski river are considerable tracts of interval. Iron ore has been found in small quantities in the western part, and sulphate of iron is found in the north-eastern part. There are two small ponds, the largest containing about sixty acres, on the outlet to which are still seen the remains of beavers' works. The principal streams are the river Lamoille, which runs from Milton through the northwest corner into Lake Champlain; Mallet's creek, which also comes from Milton and empties into Mallet's bay; Indian creek, which runs into Mallet's creek, and Winooski river on the south. There are two villages — Colchester and Winooski village, the



latter situated at Winooski lower falls, and partly in Burlington; it has suffered very severely by fire. There are three church edifices—Congregational, Methodist, and Baptist; one academy, twelve school districts, and thirteen schools; and two post-offices—Colchester and Winooski: also, one large manufactory of fancy woollen cloths, an iron foundery, the Winooski Mill Company, a wagon shop, a harness shop, a grist-mill, and twelve stores. The Vermont and Canada Railroad passes through Colchester. Population in 1850, 2,575, now estimated at 3,000; valuation, \$677,820.

CONCORD is the most southern town in Essex county, and is situated on the Connecticut river opposite Littleton, N. H., forty miles from Montpelier. It was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered September 15, 1781, to Reuben Jones and sixty-four others. The first settlement was commenced in 1788 by Joseph Ball, and March 3, 1794, the town was organized. Previous to 1795, seventeen families had become settlers, mostly from Royalston and Westboro', Mass., among whom may be mentioned Amos Underwood, Solomon Babcock, Daniel Gregory, Benjamin Streeter, Jonathan and Jesse Woodbury, Levi Ball, and John Fry. The surface of Concord is uneven, and, in the northeastern part, very stony. It is watered by Hall's and Miles's ponds and Moose river, besides some small streams. A portion of Bradleyvale was annexed to Concord, November 6, 1856. There are two villages—Concord and West Concord—each of which has a post-office; two church edifices—Congregational and Universalist; fourteen school districts; a splendid library and museum of curiosities, belonging to Colonel John G. Darling; and the Essex County Grammar-School: also, one starch factory, an iron foundery, a tin shop, and three stores, with a combined capital of \$26,000. Population, 1,153; valuation, \$362,878.

CORINTH, in the central part of Orange county, twenty-one miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, February 4, 1764, to Jonathan White, Messrs. Ward, Taplin, and others; and a confirmatory grant was procured from New York by Henry Moore and others, February 2, 1772, under which the lands are held. In the spring of 1777, previous to the settlement of the town, Ezekiel Colby, John Nutting, and John Armand, spent several weeks here in manufacturing maple sugar. They started together from Newbury, each with a five-pail kettle on his head, and with this load they travelled by a pocket compass twelve miles through the wilderness to their place of destination. Mr. Colby moved his family into Corinth that year; and the next year (1778) was followed by Mr. Nutting and family. In 1779, Edmund

Brown, Samuel Norris, Jacob Fowler, and Bracket Towle arrived with their families, and the same year John Aiken of Wentworth, N. H., erected the first grist-mill, which went into operation the year following. In 1780, several other families came in, and the town was organized. Some time this year, Lieutenant Elliot was stationed here with twenty men to defend the inhabitants against the Indians and Tories, and built a small fort. In 1781, Colonel Wait and Major Kingsbury, with two companies of soldiers under Captains Sealy and Nelson, built a fort on what is called Cook's hill, and made this their head-quarters. October 16th of this year, five men from this fort, — Moses Warner, John Barret, John Sargeant, Jonathan Luce, and Daniel Hovey, — being on a scout and proceeding down Winooski river, were fired upon in Jericho by a party of sixteen Tories, when Warner, Sargeant, and Barret were wounded, the latter mortally. Barret lived about forty hours, and was buried near the margin of Winooski river, in Colchester. The others were carried to Quebec, and kept till the ensuing spring, when they were suffered to return. In 1782, a British scouting party from Canada, about twenty in number, under Major Breakenridge, after annoying the settlers of Newbury, — killing one man and taking another prisoner, — proceeded to Corinth, where they compelled the settlers to take the oath of allegiance to the British king.

Corinth was organized in 1781, and contains 24,000 acres. The surface is generally very uneven and broken, and the elevations abrupt; yet the land is, in almost every part, susceptible of cultivation. Copper ore has been discovered on what is called Pike hill, and worked successfully. Corinth contains five villages — Fellows Corner, West Corinth, East Corinth, Barnsville, and Corinth Centre; six meeting-houses — two Union, one Methodist, two Congregational, and one Free-will Baptist; a town-house, twenty-three school districts, an academy, and two post-offices — Corinth and East Corinth: also, a rope and cordage manufactory — capital, \$20,000; two carriage manufactories, two harness factories, one starch-mill, and seven stores. Population, 1,906; valuation, \$627,595.

CORNWALL, in the central part of Addison county, about forty miles from Montpelier, was chartered November 3, 1761, to Elias Read and his associates, and contained about 25,000 acres; and the settlement was commenced in 1774 by Asa Blodgett, Eldad Andrus, Aaron Scott, Dr. Nathan Foot, William Douglass, James Bentley, Jr., Ebenezer Stebbins, Thomas Bentley, Samuel Blodgett, and Joseph Troup. When Ticonderoga was abandoned to the British in 1777, the settlers all fled to the south, and did not return till after the war. But Doctor Foot,

knowing the value of the land, made many purchases, and was admitted to the legislature of 1778 as the member from Cornwall, by reason of the lands being owned by him, although there was not then an inhabitant in Cornwall. After the peace of 1783 he returned hither, assumed the office of clerk, and recorded in a small book a number of deeds procured by him when absent. Deacon Jeremiah Bingham, who had been a schoolmaster in early life, came here from Norwich, Conn., at the close of the Revolution, when there was not another inhabitant, and, in 1785, by his encouragement and assistance, a church of eight members was formed. He died in February, 1842, at the age of ninety-four. In the winter of 1784, about thirty families came in from Connecticut, who gave quite an impetus to the infant settlement. Hiland Hall was a prominent man in town affairs upon the organization of the town, which took place March 2, 1784, and during subsequent years. Hon. Solomon Foot, one of the United States senators from this state, was born here November 19, 1802—graduated at Middlebury College in 1826—spent some years in teaching at the University of Vermont and elsewhere, reading law in the mean time—was admitted to the bar in 1831—elected to the legislature in 1833, 1836, 1837, and 1838, the last of which he was speaker of the house—was attorney for Rutland county from 1836 to 1842—served two terms in congress, from 1843 to 1847—was chosen to his present position in 1850, and has been reëlected for a second term. Four or five square miles from the east part were annexed to Middlebury, October 25, 1796. This is a very handsome township of land, and the surface is very level. Lemonfair river crosses the northwest corner, and Otter creek washes a part of the eastern boundary. In the south part is a quarry of excellent dark blue limestone, from which the material for the front of the new college in Middlebury was obtained; and near the centre is a bed of hydraulic cement, or water-lime. Along Otter creek, in the southeast part, is a large swamp, covering several thousand acres. There are two villages—Cornwall and West Cornwall, with a post-office at each; three church edifices—Congregational, Baptist, and Methodist; and seven school districts: also, two saw-mills and three stores. Population, 1,155; valuation, \$457,187.

COVENTRY, Orleans county, adjoining Irasburgh, the county seat, on the north, and forty-nine miles from Montpelier, was granted and chartered to Major Elias Buel of Coventry, Conn., and fifty-nine others, November 4, 1780, by the name of Coventry. This name was, November 3, 1841, changed to Orleans, but was changed back to Coventry, November 1, 1843. The original grant had three tracts, two of which

were gores, and have been annexed. The settlement was begun in the year 1800, within which Samuel and T. Cobb, Samuel Wells, James Farnsworth, Joseph Marsh, Jotham Pierce, and John Ide had taken up their homes here. Among the early residents was Peleg Redfield, a physician of some eminence, who removed here from Weathersfield in 1806, and lived here until his death, November 8, 1848. For a great number of years he was one of the most prominent citizens, having held various offices in town. He was father of Hon. Isaac F. Redfield, chief justice of the supreme court, some notice of whom will be found in the article on Weathersfield. The town was organized March 31, 1803, and now contains 26,879 acres. The western part is somewhat broken, but not mountainous. The soil near the lake is clayey, and on Black river somewhat sandy, but, through the town generally, consists of a deep, rich loam. Barton and Black rivers run northerly into lake Memphremagog, the southerly part of which extends into Coventry. These rivers are from four to eight rods wide, and very deep near their mouths. Upon some of them are good mill privileges. The village of Coventry was commenced, in the fall of 1821 by Calvin and Daniel W. Harmon, when all that part where it is situated was a dense forest. Its location is on the falls of Black river, in the southwest part of the town, and now presents quite a business-like aspect. There are two meeting-houses — Congregational and Baptist; eight school districts, and one post-office: also, one starch manufactory, one tannery, one sash and blind factory, three wheelwright shops, and one harness-maker's shop. Population, 867; valuation, \$270,600.

CRAFTSBURY, Orleans county, twenty-five miles from the Canada line, and about the same distance from Montpelier, is nearly at equal distances from Connecticut river on the east and Lake Champlain on the west. It was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered August 23, 1781, to Timothy Newell, Ebenezer Crafts, and sixty-two others, by the name of Minden. The first settlement was commenced, in the summer of 1788, by Colonel Ebenezer Crafts, who opened a road from Cabot, eighteen miles, cleared ten or twelve acres of land, and built a house and saw-mill. In the spring of 1789, Nathan Cutler and Robert Trumbull arrived with their families; but the latter, in consequence of the sickness of his family, spent the ensuing winter in Barnet. At this time there were no other settlements in Orleans county, and the nearest neighbors were in Greensborough, six miles distant. In November, 1790, the name of the town was altered to Craftsbury; and in February of the following year, Colonel Crafts, John Corey, Benjamin Jennings, Daniel Mason, John Babcock, and Mills Merrifield, moved their fam-

ilies here from Sturbridge, Mass. After arriving at Cabot, they found it impossible to proceed any further with their teams, on account of the great depth of the snow, which was about four feet. They were obliged to provide themselves with snow-shoes, and to draw the females of their families on hand-sleds, a distance of eighteen miles. These settlers were soon followed by others from Sturbridge and other towns in Worcester county, Mass.

Hon. Samuel C. Crafts, a son of one of the original settlers, was a native of this town, and died November 19, 1853, at the age of eighty-four. Upon the organization of the town in 1792, he was chosen town clerk, which office he held for thirty-seven consecutive years. He was the youngest delegate to the convention of 1793, for revising the state constitution. During the period from 1800 to 1828 he held — in some instances for many years — the several offices of representative to the legislature, clerk of the house, register of probate, member of the executive council, judge of the Orleans county court, and representative to congress, which last he held four terms. He presided over the constitutional convention in 1829, and was governor for the years 1828, 1829, and 1830. In 1842, he was appointed by the governor, and afterwards chosen by the legislature, to fill an unexpired term of one year in the United States senate.

Craftsbury was organized in March, 1792, and is about six miles square. The surface is somewhat uneven, and the soil suitable for agricultural purposes. Water is supplied by Black river and its several branches, affording numerous mill privileges, upon which a number of mills have been erected. Black river was known to the natives, who occasionally visited this part of Vermont, by the name of Elligo-sigo. Wild branch, a tributary of Lamoille river, rises in Eden, and passes through the western part of this township. There are five ponds — Elligo, lying partly in Greensborough; Great Hosmer, lying partly in Albany; Little Hosmer, and two other ponds. On an elevated plain, affording an extensive prospect, is situated the centre village, known by the name of Craftsbury Common, which is quite a prosperous and business-like place. Besides this, there are three other villages — South, Mill, and East Hill; four church edifices — two Methodist, one Congregational, and one Covenanters; fourteen school districts, and three post-offices — Craftsbury, North Craftsbury, and East Craftsbury; an academy: also, ten saw-mills, two grist-mills, one starch-mill, and several small mechanical establishments. Population, 1,223; valuation, \$337,049.

DANBY, in the south part of Rutland county, seventy miles from Montpelier, was chartered August 27, 1761, and the first settlement was commenced in 1765 by Joseph Soper, Joséph Earl, Crispin Bull, Luther Calvin, and Micah Vail. It was organized March 14, 1769, and contains about thirty-nine square miles. A narrow strip was annexed from Mt. Tabor, November 13, 1848. The surface is uneven, and some part of it is mountainous. South mountain and Spruce mountain are the principal elevations. The soil is well adapted to the production of grass, and there are here some of the largest dairies in the state. There are several caverns in this township, which are considered as curiosities, but they have never been thoroughly explored. One of them, in the southeastern part, descends like a well into the solid rock. It is said that a person was let down by a rope one hundred and fifty feet perpendicularly into this cavern, without discovering any bottom. There are several marble quarries in the southeast part. Otter creek runs nearly on the line between this township and Mount Tabor. Mill river rises in the southwestern part and falls into Otter creek in Mount Tabor, while Flower branch rises in the northwestern part, and falls into Pawlet river in Pawlet. These, and a branch of Otter creek, in the northeastern part, have sufficient water for mills, and the privilege is improved by four mills for sawing marble. There are two villages — Danby and Danby Four Corners; four church edifices, occupied by Methodists and Quakers; fourteen school districts; and two post-offices, one at each of the villages; also, one tannery. Population, 1,535; valuation, \$585,189.

DANVILLE, until recently the shire town of Caledonia county, is twenty-eight miles from Montpelier. A part of the town was granted by New York, by the name of Old Hillsboro', but no organization ever took place under this charter. A second one was granted October 26, 1786, to Jacob Bailey, Jesse Leavenworth, and seventy-three others. Some difficulty having arisen respecting the lands, an act of the legislature authorized a new charter, which was dated November 12, 1802, under which, as well as the previous charter, the place was called Danville. Walden gore was annexed to Danville, October 29, 1792, and one half of Deweysburgh was annexed November 2, 1810, giving the town an area of about 32,000 acres. Sargeant Morrill began the settlement in 1784; and in 1785 or 1786 about fifty emigrants from New Hampshire and Massachusetts came in, and entered on the lands as squatters. The new charter from the legislature above referred to, which was granted to quiet titles, reserved to the settlers the lands on which they had located, not exceeding three hundred and twenty acres

each. In the following winter, forty other families joined the settlement; and for two or three years the immigration was so rapid, that, in 1789, the number of families was estimated to be two hundred. The consequence of such an influx was an extreme scarcity, and much suffering for the want of provisions. In 1790, improvements had been commenced on all the lots in the township.

Danville was organized March 20, 1787, and was the shire town until the change to St. Johnsbury, in 1856, under authority given by the legislature of 1855. The eastern part is elevated about two hundred, and the western part about eight hundred, feet above Connecticut river. The soil is free from stone, is easily cultivated, and is perhaps equal, in richness and adaptation to agriculture, to any in the state. The town is watered by numerous streams of pure water, which arise in the higher lands of Wheelock, Walden, and Cabot. Joe's pond, lying mostly within Danville, and covering about one thousand acres, discharges its waters into the Passumpsic by Merritt's river, or Joe's brook. At its outlet, a large, never-failing sheet of water descends over a limestone ledge seventy-five feet in twelve rods. In the north part are Sleeper's river and the Branch. Large quantities of butter, pork, and wool, are produced for market.

Danville village is very pleasantly situated, nearly in the centre of the township, on elevated land, and in the midst of a beautiful farming country. The public buildings in the village are — a Congregational, a Methodist, a Baptist, and a Union meeting-house; and an academy, all in a neat and modest style. The village incloses an open square of several acres. The academy was incorporated in 1840, and named Phillips Academy, in honor of Paul D. Phillips, who endowed it with \$4,000. The building was erected by the inhabitants, and cost \$4,000. A weekly paper, "The North Star," has been published in this village for half a century. There are twenty school districts; and two post-offices — Danville and North Danville: also, two large woollen manufactories, four grist-mills, and seven saw-mills. Population, 2,577; valuation, \$837,869.

DERBY, in the northeast part of Orleans county, extends seven and a half miles on the Canada line, about five miles on the line of Holland, and is fifty-two miles from Montpelier. It was chartered to Timothy Andrus and fifty-nine others, October 29, 1779, containing 23,040 acres; and the first settlement was made in 1795, by Alexander Magoon, Henry Buzzell, and the Hon. Timothy Hinman, the last of whom did much towards the settlement of the town, in making roads and other improvements. Emigrants from Connecticut and other places soon

made Derby a flourishing town. For some years it was visited by hunting parties of the St. Francis Indians, who formerly claimed all the north part of the state.

Derby was organized March 29, 1798. The surface is very level, more so than any other town in the county. There are some plains of several hundred acres in extent; and where the land rises, the elevations are gradual and moderate. The village called Derby Line has an altitude of 1,050 feet above the sea level. The scenery is very attractive. The beautiful farm buildings everywhere meet the eye, filled with the productions of a luxuriant soil; and in the distance rises a range of picturesque mountains, at whose base rest the placid waters of Lake Memphremagog. The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad is now in process of construction from St. Johnsbury to this town. The river Clyde passes through the south part, affording numerous mill sites. Salem pond, through which Clyde river passes, is four miles long and three broad; and Hinman's pond, near the centre of the town, is one and a half miles long and three quarters of a mile wide.

There are three villages—Derby, Derby Line, and West Derby, with a post-office at each; five church edifices—Congregational, Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal, and Free-will Baptist; thirteen school districts; the Derby Literary Institute, a flourishing seminary, opened in 1840 under the auspices of the Danville Baptist Association, but recently transferred to the town: also, the following manufactures: iron castings, tin ware, leather, boots and shoes, wagons, harnesses, furniture, and starch; two saw-mills and two grist-mills. Some attention is given to the raising of live stock, particularly the Morgan and Black Hawk horses. Population, 1,750; valuation, \$540,389.

DORSET, in the north part of Bennington county, 190 miles from Montpelier, was chartered August 20, 1761, to Gideon Lyman and sixty-three others, containing 23,040 acres. The first settlement was made in 1768, by Felix Powell from Massachusetts (to whom, at the first proprietors' meeting, held the next year, fifty acres were voted as a gratuity), Isaac Lacy from Connecticut, and Benjamin Baldwin, Abraham Underhill, John Manley, and George Gage from New York. It was organized in 1769. The surface is exceedingly mountainous. Dorset mountain lies in the north part, and extends into Danby, where it is called South mountain. Equinox mountain lies partly in the southwest corner. Marble quarries have been opened in several places and successfully wrought, the largest of which is the "Vermont Italian" quarry, owned by Holley, Fields, and Kent. It presents a bold front on the side of the



mountain, half a mile in length by 150 feet in height, and of a breadth which ages cannot exhaust. Otter creek, the Battenkill stream, and Pawlet river, afford a number of mill privileges, on which mills have been erected. In this township are several remarkable caverns, one of which in the south part is entered by an aperture nearly ten feet square, and contains several large rooms, one of which is about nine rods long and four wide. It is said to have been explored forty or fifty rods without finding its termination. Considerable quantities of marble, lumber, and iron, are manufactured in Dorset. There are four villages — Dorset, South Dorset, East Dorset, and North Dorset, with a post-office at each; three church edifices — Congregational, Methodist, and Union; and fourteen school districts: also, one large steam marble saw-mill, three stone saw-mills propelled by water, and one large steam lumber saw-mill. The Western Vermont Railroad passes through East Dorset and North Dorset. Population, 1,700; valuation, \$461,708.

DOVER, in the central part of Windham county, ninety miles from Montpelier, was granted and chartered November 7, 1780, as a part of Wardsborough, to William Ward of Newfane and sixty-two others. Wardsborough was divided into two districts, October 18, 1788, called the north and south districts; and, October 30, 1810, the south district was constituted a separate town by the name of Dover, which is rough, ragged, and mountainous, and the soil cold, and hard to cultivate. Several branches of West river and a branch of Deerfield river rise here, and afford some mill privileges, which have been improved. There are two villages — Dover and West Dover, with a post-office at each; two churches — Baptist, and another belonging to a religious organization founded by Rev. Darwin H. Ranney, styling themselves Unionists, and claiming to be the second church of the kind in the United States: also, several grist-mills and saw-mills, and a starch factory. Population, 709; valuation, \$239,649.

DUMMERSTON, in the eastern part of Windham county, upon Connecticut river, 115 miles from Montpelier, was a name originally applied to one of four tracts of land, granted about 1713 by Massachusetts to Connecticut, as an equivalent for 107,793 acres of land granted by the former to planters, and which, upon determining the boundary between the two governments, were found to be within the jurisdiction of the latter. This tract, containing 43,943 acres, and including a portion of the present towns of Brattleborough, Dummerston, and Putney, was sold at auction, together with the other tracts, by order of the colony of Connecticut, April 24–25, 1716, and, upon partition made, fell to

William (afterwards lieutenant-governor) Dummer, Anthony or Simeon Stoder or Stoddard, William Brattle, and John White. Dummer being the oldest proprietor, the tract was called after him. On the settlement of the jurisdictional line between Massachusetts and New Hampshire in 1741, "this tract fell within the limits of the government of New Hampshire, which incorporated the whole into three townships, including, in the middle township, the greatest part of the lands belonging to the heirs of William Dummer and . . . Stoder, and called the name of it Fulham, by virtue of which the privileges of a town are now held."<sup>1</sup> The charter from New Hampshire, dated December 26, 1753, was issued to Stoder and fifty-six others, and covered 19,360 acres. The time to fulfil some of the conditions of the charter was extended June 12, 1760, and again July 7, 1763. The name of the town was again changed to Dummerston, but when, or by what authority, does not appear of record. As late as 1773, the town was called by both names.

Dummerston, throughout the perils of the Revolution, was a strong whig town, and also participated in active opposition to the jurisdiction assumed by New York. The order of the king in council, declaring the Connecticut river to be the eastern boundary of the province of New York, was regarded as especially tyrannical. The records of the town, kept by Solomon Harvey, the village physician, quite fully exhibit not only the clerk's patriotism, but the spirit of liberty among the citizens. At a town meeting held at Dummerston, May 17, 1774, through the influence of New York officials, the people omitted to choose town trustees. Becoming suspicious, however, that some of the higher dignitaries of the county would "appoint some of their emissaries to supply the place of trustees," they caused another meeting to be notified, and effected a choice.<sup>2</sup> Another affair, which occurred in the autumn of the same year, and in which the redoubtable doctor bore a conspicuous part among his fellow-citizens, was the rescue of their compatriot, Lieutenant Leonard Spaulding, who had been charged with high treason, and put in close confinement, upon the evidence that he had remarked, that, if the king had signed the Quebec bill (by a provision of which the Roman Catholic religion, instead of being *tolerated* in Quebec, as stipulated by the treaty of peace, was *established*), it was his opinion that he had broke his coronation oath.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Town Records, 1773, 1774, p. 10.

<sup>2</sup> MS. Records of Dummerston, I. 15-17.

<sup>3</sup> Slade's Vermont State Papers, p. 56. Hall's Eastern Vermont, p. 202. The doctor's account of the event must be preserved. "On the 28th of October, A. Dom. 1774, Lieut. Leonard Spaulding of the town of Fullham alias Dummerston, was Committed to the

Dummerston was one of the first towns to respond to the "non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation association" resolution of congress. In common with their neighbors, the people chose delegates to a second convention at Westminster in November, who were instructed to procure a vote of thanks to congress, and to choose deputies to that body to be held in Philadelphia on the following May. At this meeting a vote was passed, directing the assessors to "Assess the town in a Discretionary sum of money, Sufficient to procure one hundred weight of gunpowder, two hundred Weight of Lead, & three hundred flints, for the town use." The tax was to be taken in "potash salts," and a committee was appointed to receive that article. In accordance with the advice of congress, the town chose a "committee of inspection"<sup>1</sup> of seven persons, January 3, 1775, with Doctor Harvey at their

Common gaol for high treason against the British tyrant, George the third, by the direction of the infamous Crean Brush, his attorney, & Noah Sabin, William Willard, and Ephraim Ranney, Esqs, and Wm. Patterson, the high Shreeve, and Benja. Gorton, and the infamous Bildad Easton, and his Deputies; upon which, on the following day, viz. October the 29th, a majority of the inhabitants met near the house of Charles Davenport on the green, and made Choice of Sundry persons to Serve as a Committee of Correspondancy to joyne with other towns or respectable bodies of peopel, the better to secure and protect the rights and priveledges of themselves and fellow-cretures from the ravages and imbarassments of the British tyrant, and his New York and other immesaries.

"The persons made choice of, were these, viz., Solomon Harvey, John Butler, Jonathan Knight, Josiah Boyden, & Daniel Gates, by whose vigilance and activity Mr. Spaulding was released from his Confinement after about eleven days: the Committee finding it Necessary to be assisted by a Large Concource of their freeborn Neighbors and bretherin, Consisting of the inhabitants of Dummerston, Putney, Guilford, Halifax, and Draper (now Wilmington), who discovered a patriotic Zeal and true heroic fortitude on the important occation. The plain truth is, that the brave sons of freedom whose patience was worn out with the inhuman insults of the imps of power grew quite sick of diving after redress in a Legal way, and finding that the Law was only made use of for the Emolument of its Cretures & the immesaries of the British tyrant, resolved upon an Easier Method, and accordingly Opned the goal without key or Lock-picker, and after Congratulating Mr. Spaulding upon the recovery of his freedom, Dispersed Every man in pease to his respective home or place of abode. The afforgoing is a true and short relation of that Wicked affair of the New York, Cut throatly, Jacobitish, High Church, Toretical minions of George the third, the pope of Canada, & tyrant of Britain." — *Town Records*, I. 18-20.

<sup>1</sup> "The authority with which this committee was vested was by no means negative, and their office was in no sense of the word a sinecure. Under their inquisitorial sway, two of the town assessors were removed from their places, because they had refused to purchase the stock of ammunition which was to be paid for in 'potash salts.' From one man they took a gun, because forsooth they suspected it contained a ball more friendly to the king than to the congress. Another man, who had been prominent in the history of the village, was declared unfit for office, and was not permitted to act in a public station, until by his conduct he evinced the spirit of a patriot." — *Hall's Eastern Vermont*, p. 205.

head, to observe the "conduct of the inhabitants." In the exciting scene at Westminster, in March, 1775, between the people and the court with its tory adherents, the Dummerstonians were busy, three hundred men marching to the conflict under the command of the doctor; and in another part of the place, Lieutenant Spaulding, the rescued Dummerston farmer, was engaged in examining all persons who were suspected of coming to reinforce the sheriff's party.<sup>1</sup> Through those days of bitter controversy at home and foreign warfare, there was no lack of zeal or courage on the part of the people of this town, which they found rewarded with a due measure of success.

The surface is broken. Black mountain, near the centre, is composed principally of granite, but of too coarse a variety to be of much value as building material. West river and smaller streams furnish a good supply of water, as well as valuable mill sites. There are two villages — Dummerston and West Dummerston, with a post-office at each; two church edifices — Congregational and Baptist; and fourteen school districts: also, five grist-mills, five saw-mills, one slate manufactory, and one shop for making rakes. The Vermont Valley Railroad passes through the town. Population, 1,645; valuation, \$348,409.

DUXBURY, in the western part of Washington county, thirteen miles from Montpelier, was chartered June 7, 1763, to Isaac Brown and sixty-three others, and the settlement was commenced about the year 1786 by Walter Avery and Stephen Tilden. It was organized March 26, 1792, and contains upward of thirty-six square miles. The south and western parts are mountainous, and incapable of cultivation or settlement. Camel's Hump, having an altitude of 4,083 feet, is situated on the west line of the town. Nearly all the inhabitants are located upon the margin of Winooski river, and in the northeastern parts of the township. It is watered by Winooski river, which forms the northern boundary; by Duxbury branch, on which is a considerable settlement, and by several branches of Mad river. The natural bridge over Winooski river is between Duxbury and Waterbury, and near it are some curious caverns. The town has one small village, called North Duxbury, having a post-office; one Union meeting-house; and nine school districts: also, seven saw-mills, three clapboard mills, one grain mill, and two wheelwright shops. Population, 845; valuation, \$201,717.

<sup>1</sup> The fact that William French resided almost upon the line between Brattleborough and Dummerston, and was quite at home here, sufficiently explains the inflamed spirit of the people on this occasion. See article on Westminster.

**EAST HAVEN**, Essex county, is forty-five miles from Montpelier, and was granted November 8, 1780, and chartered October 22, 1790, to Timothy Andrus and sixty-two associates. There were five or six families in this town as early as 1814, but the settlement has advanced very slowly. It was organized July 28, 1845, and contains 23,040 acres, more than ten thousand of which is wild land, and possessing a soil adapted to the growth of all kinds of grain, and as good for grass as the best old farms in the state. Passumpsic river crosses the west corner, and the head of Moose river waters the eastern part, each being about two rods wide, and affording good mill sites. There is a Methodist society here, and one post-office. Population, 94; valuation, \$41,009.

**EAST MONTPELIER**, in Washington county, embraced the north and east part of Montpelier, and was set off November 9, 1848, and organized January 1, 1849. It covers about five sixths of the 23,040 acres in the original charter, or 19,000 acres. General Parley Davis, noticed more particularly in the article on Montpelier, settled in this part of the town in 1788. The general surface is uneven, but not abrupt or broken, and presents very little waste land. The soil is productive, and contains an admixture of marl, and occasionally a vein of clay;—in the southern part some sand. Winooski river enters the town upon the east side towards the southern corner, passing diagonally across the south line. Several smaller streams fall into this river, the principal one of which is Calais branch, passing across the north corner and east side and supplying water for a number of mills.

There are two villages—North and East Montpelier, with a post-office at each; three church edifices—Universalist, Union, and Friends; and eleven school districts: also, two grist-mills, two saw-mills, one planing-mill with splitting and other saws, two boot and shoe shops, two blacksmith and two wheelwright shops, a manufactory of musical instruments, and a woollen manufactory with a capital of \$50,000, and employing from fifty to one hundred operatives. Population, 1,447; valuation, \$491,882.

**EDEN**, in the northern part of Lamoille county, thirty miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered to "Colonel Seth Warner and his associates, our worthy friends, the officers and soldiers of his regiment in the war of the Continental army," August 28, 1781. The settlement was commenced in 1800 by Thomas H. Parker, Isaac Brown, and Moses Wentworth. The town was organized March 18, 1802, and contained thirty-six square miles, which was increased by the addition of twenty-one square miles from Belvidere, on the 30th

of October, 1828. The surface is somewhat mountainous. Mount Norris and Hadley mountain lie on the north line, partly in Lowell; and Belvidere mountain comes partly within the limits of this town—its summit being probably the highest land in the county, excepting perhaps Jay Peak. There is some good tillage land in the western part; and in the eastern part, which is the dividing ridge between the waters of Lake Champlain and Memphremagog, the land is moist and cold, but good for grazing. Wild branch and Green river rise in the eastern part, and are both considerable mill streams. North pond is two miles long, and of very unequal width. A tongue of land extends into it from the south, three quarters of a mile, being, in some places, no more than two rods wide. Eden contains two villages—Eden Corners and Mill Village; one church edifice—Union; nine school districts, and one post-office: also, two starch factories and one store. Population, 668; valuation, \$158,865.

ELMORE, in the southeastern part of Lamoille county, seventeen miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered to Colonel Samuel Elmore and sixty-four associates, August 21, 1781. The settlement was commenced in July, 1790, by Martin and Jesse Elmore, James and Seth Olmstead, Aaron Keeler, from Sharon and Norwalk, Conn. The town was organized July 23, 1792, and contains thirty-six square miles. Martin Elmore was town clerk from 1797 to 1838, a period of forty-one years. The surface is not very uneven, and the soil is of a middling quality. A great part, however, yet remains an unbroken wilderness. Elmore mountain lies in the northwest part, and is a considerable elevation. A part of the waters pass off northward into the river Lamoille, and a part southward into the Winooski. Mead's pond, covering about three hundred acres, lies in the northwestern part; and there are three other smaller ponds. Iron ore is found in abundance. Elmore has one small village, called Elmore Pond; one church edifice—Methodist Episcopal; nine school districts; and one post-office: also, a starch factory, a carriage shop, two blacksmith shops, and a harness shop. Population, 504; valuation, \$137,563.

ENOSBURGH, in the northeastern part of Franklin county, forty-three miles from Montpelier, was granted March 12, 1780, and chartered to Roger Enos and fifty-nine associates on the 15th of May following. The settlement was commenced, in the spring of 1797, by Amos Fasset, Stephen House, Martin D. Follet, and others, mostly from towns within the state. Enosburgh was organized in March, 1798, and a part of Ba-

kersfield was annexed to it in October following. The surface is pleasantly diversified with hills and valleys; but the soil is better adapted to the production of grass than grain. It is well watered by Missisco and Trout rivers and two other considerable streams, which afford numerous and excellent mill privileges. The town contains four villages — Enosburgh, West Enosburgh, Enosburgh Falls, and Enosburgh Upper Falls; five churches — Congregational, Methodist, Episcopal, Baptist, and Union; fifteen school districts and schools; a seminary; manufactures in leather, woollens, lumber, and iron; \$25,000 invested in trade; and three post-offices — Enosburgh, West Enosburgh, and Enosburgh Falls. Population, \$2,009; valuation, \$441,223.

ESSEX has a central situation in Chittenden county, thirty-five miles from Montpelier, and is separated from Burlington by Winooski river. It was chartered June 7, 1763, to Edward Burling and others, and the first permanent settlement was made in 1783 by Messrs. Smith, Winchel, and Willard. The early settlers came principally from Salisbury, Conn. In 1789, there was a very great scarcity of provisions in this part of the country, and the settlers suffered extremely on that account. Essex was organized March 22, 1786, and was first regularly surveyed by John Johnson in 1806. It contains about 23,040 acres, and the surface is quite even, there being but few hills and no mountains. The soil is dry and sandy, but produces good crops of grain and grass. The southern boundary is washed by Winooski river, in which there are two falls, the lower, called Hubbell's falls, affording several valuable mill privileges. Brown's river enters from Jericho; and Indian river (called here Stevens brook), Alder brook, and Crooked brook are considerable streams. There are two villages — Essex and Painesville; three church edifices — Congregational, Methodist, and Baptist; the Chittenden County Institute; fourteen school districts, with the same number of schools; and two post-offices, one at each of the villages; capital invested in trade, \$8,500; in manufactures, \$1,500. The Vermont Central Railroad forms a junction at Essex with a branch railroad to Burlington. Population, 2,052; valuation, \$455,800.

ESSEX COUNTY lies in the northeast part of the state, extending, for its entire length, upon Connecticut river, about fifty miles; and forms a part of what was called the Upper Coös country. It was one of the eleven counties whose bounds were fixed by act of March 2, 1797, but no officers were chosen for it until the October session of the legislature in 1800. It has an area of about seven hundred square miles, a considerable portion of which is in unorganized townships and gores, of which

there are seven. It has twelve organized towns, and is, excepting Grand Isle, the least populous county in the state, some of the townships being almost destitute of inhabitants. The settlements are mostly along the Connecticut. The surface is generally uneven, and the soil rocky and unproductive. The Nulhegan, with its tributaries, waters the central part of the county; the Passumpsic and Moose rivers rise in the southerly part, and the Clyde and its branches in the northerly part, which is also traversed by the Grand Trunk Railway. Guildhall is the shire town. The annual term of the supreme court commences in August, and the terms of the county court in September and March. Population, 4,650; valuation, \$1,092,389.

FAIRFAX lies in the south part of Franklin county, forty miles from Montpelier, and was chartered by New Hampshire, August 18, 1763, to Edward Burling and sixty-three others. The first improvements were made in 1783, by Broadstreet Spafford and his two sons, Nathan and Asa, who came from Piermont, N. H. A Mr. Eastman started from New Hampshire with them, with his family, but died on the road, and was buried in a trough on the flats in Johnson. His family settled in Fletcher.

Fairfax was organized March 22, 1787, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is somewhat uneven, and the soil light and easily cultivated, producing the best of corn and rye. Its principal stream is the river Lamoille, which runs through the south part; with Brown's river, and Parmelee's and Stone's brooks, its tributaries. The great falls, on the Lamoille, descending eighty-eight feet in thirty rods, are situated in the southeast part of the town, and afford some of the best water privileges in the state. There are four church edifices — two Methodist and two Baptist; the New Hampton Literary and Theological Institute; eighteen school districts, with the same number of schools; and three post-offices — Fairfax, North Fairfax, and Buck Hollow: also, nine saw-mills, one grist-mill, three stoneware factories, one tannery, two carriage shops, and one woollen factory. Population, 2,111; valuation, \$419,978.

FAIRFIELD, nearly in the centre of Franklin county, forty-five miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 18, 1763, to Samuel Hungerford and sixty-three others, containing 23,040 acres. The first settler was Joseph Wheeler, who removed here with his family in March, 1788. In 1789, Hubbard Barlow and Andrew Bradley, with several others, arrived. Smithfield Beaden was the first child born here, in the part called Smithfield, and the proprietors made him a present of one hundred acres of land.

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Fairfield was organized in March, 1790; and, in 1792, this and Smithfield, which had been chartered at the same time, and of the same area, and Bakersfield, or Knowlton's Gore, which contained 10,000 acres, were made into two towns, Bakersfield and Fairfield, the latter having the larger area of 37,649 acres. The surface is uneven, but very little of it so broken as to be unfit for cultivation. The soil is generally good. Black creek issues from Metcalf pond and runs through this township, having considerable water power. Fairfield river is a small stream, which also takes its rise in Fletcher and passes through near the centre of this town, affording several good mill privileges. These streams unite, and fall into Missisco river in Sheldon. Smithfield pond, lying in the westerly part, is about three miles long and one and a half broad, at the outlet of which, and also on its course, about two miles below, are advantageous places for mills. Fairfield was formerly a place of considerable business; but, owing to the mania for emigration westward, and the absence of a railroad, its business has fallen off. There are three church edifices — Episcopal, Congregational, and Roman Catholic; twenty-four school districts, with the same number of schools; and two post-offices — Fairfield and East Fairfield: also, one large flouring establishment, two carriage manufactories, two tanneries, and six saw-mills. Population, 2,591; valuation, \$538,062.

FAIRHAVEN, in the western part of Rutland county, fifty-five miles from Montpelier, was chartered October 27, 1779, to Ebenezer Allen and seventy-six associates, containing nearly forty square miles; and the settlement was commenced the same year by John and William Meacham, Oliver Cleveland, Joseph Ballard, and Joseph Haskins, with their families. In 1783, Colonel Matthew Lyon, Silas Safford, and others moved into town, and the former commenced erecting mills.<sup>1</sup> The first settlers were from Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The town was organized in 1783, and formerly comprised the town of Westhaven, which was set off from it, October 20, 1792, leaving as

<sup>1</sup> Colonel Lyon was born in Ireland, — came to this country when sixteen years old, and was sold in Connecticut to pay for his passage. He had in operation at Fairhaven, before 1796, one furnace, two forges, one slitting mill, one printing-office, one paper-mill, one saw-mill, and one grist-mill, and he did printing on paper manufactured by himself from bass-wood bark. He was member of congress from 1797–1801, and, during his second term, was arrested under the "alien and sedition law" and fined \$1,000, refusing to pay which, he was imprisoned at Vergennes; but the amount was paid by his political friends, and he arrived at Washington in time to help settle that fierce and memorable contest between Burr and Jefferson in favor of the latter. About this time he sold his property in this town — removed to Kentucky — was there reelected to congress, and afterwards removed to Arkansas, where he died at an advanced age.

the area of this town about sixteen square miles. The surface consists of swells and vales, but there is no elevation worthy of the name of mountain. Fairhaven is watered by Poultney<sup>1</sup> and Castleton rivers, on the latter of which, in the village of Fairhaven, are two falls, on which are several mills and other manufacturing establishments. Until within the last eleven years, there was no roofing slate manufactured in Vermont, except a small quantity in Guilford. In 1846, the quarrying and manufacture of school-slate were commenced here, and the year following, the manufacture of roofing slate, since which time the business has rapidly increased till it has reached the sum of \$45,000 per annum. There are extensive slate quarries, apparently inexhaustible, the ultimate value of which cannot well be estimated, but may be set down as exceeding \$1,000,000; and by some they are estimated as high as \$5,000,000. The roofing slate finds a ready market in most of our Atlantic and Western cities, and the demand has a constant yearly increase.

The village of Fairhaven, on Castleton river, is eligibly situated, tastefully arranged, and has ample public grounds. There are four church edifices,—one of which is in course of erection,—Congregational, Methodist, Roman Catholic, and one belonging to a Welsh community; four school districts and four schools; a select school, and one post-office: also, one marble mill, which manufactures and sells about \$60,000 worth annually; one rolling-mill, forge and nail factory, manufacturing about \$60,000 worth of iron and cut nails; a paper-mill, manufacturing about \$20,000 worth of hanging or room paper; one grist-mill, three wood saw-mills, one wagon shop, one machine-shop, two blacksmith's shops, and two shoe-maker's shops, as also several stores. Population in 1850, 902, which has increased to about 1,200; valuation, \$355,415.

FAIRLEE, in the eastern part of Orange county, thirty miles from Montpelier, was chartered September 9, 1761, to Josiah Channey, Joseph Hubbard, and sixty-two others; and the settlement was commenced in 1766 by a Mr. Baldwin, who had settled the year before in Thetford. In 1768, Samuel Miller, Samuel Bentley, William and David Thompson, Noah Dewey, and Joel White settled here.

<sup>1</sup> A remarkable change took place in the bed of this stream in 1783. The river cut its way through a sandy plain nearly one mile in length, and formed a new channel nearly one hundred feet below the former one, leaving entirely the rocky channel over which it formerly ran, which was eighty feet above the present one. It destroyed a valuable mill privilege, and with its resistless current carried the immense mass of sand through which it forced its way over a precipitous fall of ninety feet, into East Bay, destroying its navigable facilities, which heretofore had been sufficient for sloops.

The town was organized about the year 1775, and contained at that time 24,000 acres. In February, 1797, the western or larger half was set off and constituted a separate town by the name of West Fairlee, the division line being run from north to south through the centre of the original grant; leaving this with 11,854 acres. Fairlee is, in general, mountainous and broken, and much of it unfit for cultivation. The mountains, in some places, form almost perpendicular precipices several hundred feet in height upon Connecticut river. Fairlee lake is about a mile west of the river, and is two miles long and three fourths of a mile wide. In 1809, Samuel Morey procured a number of pickerel from a pond in Rumney, N. H., and put them into Fairlee pond. In October following, the legislature of Vermont passed an act for the preservation of the fish in this pond for two years, during which time they increased very rapidly. A bridge connects this town with Oxford, N. H. Fairlee has one village, one meeting-house (Union), seven school districts, and one post-office: also, several saw-mills, one grist-mill, and an establishment for lead pipe and pumps. Population, 575; valuation, \$218,444.

FAYSTON, in the southwest corner of Washington county, seventeen miles from Montpelier, was granted February 25, and chartered February 27, 1782, to Ebenezer Walbridge and sixty-four others. The settlement was commenced in the year 1798, by Lynde Wait, Rufus Barrett, and William Williams; and in the year 1800 there were eighteen persons here. The town was organized August 6, 1805. The land is elevated, lying in large swells, and the soil is fertile, producing good crops of grain and grass. Two streams, head branches of Mad river, pass through the town, on which four saw-mills have been erected. There are nine school districts. Population, 684; valuation, \$142,000.

FERDINAND is a territorially large town, in the centre of Essex county, which was chartered by New Hampshire, October 13, 1761, to Thomas Hungerford and others. Its original limits embraced about 25,000 acres, which were enlarged, November 23, 1853, to about 33,000 acres, by the annexation, upon its northerly side, of the easterly part of Wenlock — the other part by the same act being annexed to Brighton. As Ferdinand has never been taxed, but has been reported "uninhabited," while Wenlock, at the last census, "appeared out" with a population of twenty-six, it is presumable that the strong desire of the people in the latter place to extend their farms was a sufficient inducement for them to submit to the loss of their former name. A preference for the name of Ferdinand, however, may have smoothed

the way to such compromise. The surface is partly mountainous and partly swampy, with some small patches of good land. Water is supplied by Nulhegan and Paul's rivers and their branches. Population, 13.

FERRISBURGH, in the northwest corner of Addison county, and bordering upon Lake Champlain, thirty-four miles from Montpelier, was chartered June 24, 1762, by New Hampshire, to Daniel Merrill, several persons by the name of Ferris, and others. The first permanent settlement was made in 1784 and 1785 by Mr. Ward, Abel Thompson, Gideon Hawley, Timothy Rogers, Joseph Chilson, Jonathan Saxton, and Zuriel and Absalom Tupper, emigrants from Bennington and from Connecticut.

Ferrisburgh was organized March 29, 1785, and contained at that time about 24,600 acres. More than half of the little city of Vergennes was taken from this township. By act of November 3, 1847, all the part of the town west of Great Otter creek was to be annexed to Panton, if both towns should accept the act, which, however, they refused to do.<sup>1</sup> The surface of the northeastern part is somewhat hilly; while the remaining parts, particularly the western, are remarkably level and smooth. The soil is varied, some parts of it being clayey, while others consist of rich mould, which is easily tilled and very productive. It is watered by Otter, Little Otter, and Lewis creeks. About three miles north of the southwest corner is one of the best harbors on the lake, called Basin harbor. Five miles northwest from Vergennes, and a short distance from the mouth of Little Otter creek, is a ferry across the lake, which is here something more than two miles wide. This place is known by the name of Grog harbor, taking its name from the landing-place in Essex, on the New York side. It has a thriving community, the principal business being agriculture and the raising of stock. There are two villages — Ferrisburgh and North Ferrisburgh, each having a post-office; three church edifices — Union, Methodist Episcopal, and Wesleyan Methodist; and seventeen school districts: also, two flour mills, three saw-mills, one tannery, one small woollen factory, and two wheelwright shops, having a paint shop and blacksmith shop in connection with each. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through Ferrisburgh. Population, 2,075; valuation, \$761,745.

<sup>1</sup> In the valuation table, the area of this town is given as 26,636 acres, which appears to exceed somewhat the original survey.

FLETCHER, a triangular township in the southeast part of Franklin county, thirty-five miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered August 20, 1781, to Moses Robinson, John Fay, and sixty-three others. The settlement was commenced in 1784, and the town was organized March 16, 1790. A small part was annexed to Cambridge, November 1, 1841, leaving as its present area 20,740 acres. The surface is very much broken. Lamoille river crosses the southern corner of the town; it is otherwise watered by Metcalf pond and one or two small streams. There are two villages—Fletcher Centre and Binghamville; one Union meeting-house, twelve school districts, and one post-office: also, several mills and two stores. Population, 1,084; valuation, \$234,910.

FRANKLIN, in the northern part of Franklin county, on the boundary line dividing Vermont from Canada East, fifty-one miles from Montpelier, was granted by the state of Vermont, October 24, 1787, and chartered March 19, 1789, to Jonathan Hunt, and five others, by the name of Huntsburgh. This year the settlement was commenced by Samuel Hubbard, Samuel Peckham, David Sanders, and John Bridgeman, most of whom were emigrants from Massachusetts. The town was organized in 1793, and its name was changed October 25, 1817, from Huntsburgh to Franklin. A large pond lies near the central part, and there are several small streams by which the town is watered. There are two villages—Franklin and East Franklin; two church edifices—Congregational and Methodist; fourteen school districts; one academy, called the Franklin Academical Institution; and two post-offices, one at each of the villages: also, one woollen factory, one wagon shop, one harness shop, and one tannery. Population, 1,646; valuation, \$376,082.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, occupying the northwest corner of the state, was incorporated from Chittenden county, November 8, 1796, and was reduced to its present limits upon the incorporation of Lamoille county in 1835. It has fourteen towns, which cover an area of six hundred square miles. The eastern part extends on to the west range of Green Mountains, and is high and broken; the western part is generally level, and is a good farming country. The settlement of the county was commenced immediately after the Revolutionary war, and is now one of the most populous counties of the state. The Missisco river waters the north, and the Lamoille the south, part of the county. Iron ore and very fine marble are among the items of its wealth. The Vermont and Canada Railroad passes up its western or lake border. St. Albans

is the shire town, at which the annual term of the supreme court is held in January, and the terms of the county court occur in April and September. Population, 28,586; valuation, \$5,971,767.

GEORGIA, in the southwestern part of Franklin county, on the shore of Lake Champlain, forty-one miles from Montpelier, was granted and chartered by New Hampshire to Richard Emery and sixty-four others, August 17, 1763. The first settlements were made by Andrew Guilder from Egremont, Mass., in 1784, and William Farrand from Bennington, in 1785. During the two following years, a great number of families, mostly from Bennington and the western part of Massachusetts, moved into the town, and a considerable number of young men without families. The first settlers of Georgia had their share of those privations and hardships which are incident to the settlers of a new country. They at first had to go to Burlington and Plattsburg to mill; but, the population increased so rapidly, these inconveniences were soon remedied.

Georgia was organized March 12, 1788, and contains about thirty-six square miles. The soil in the south part is sandy, and in the east part a gravelly loam, which is generally productive. The river Lamoyille, which runs through the southeast corner, is the principal stream. In the northeast part is a pond, covering thirty or forty acres, which is surrounded by high lands (except a narrow outlet to the north), and is bordered by a grove of alders. The mill privileges are numerous, there being no less than twelve, nearly all of which have been improved. Over what is called Stone-bridge brook, in the southwestern part of the township, is a natural bridge, twelve or fourteen feet wide, the top of which is seven or eight feet above the surface of the water. The width of the arch is forty or fifty feet, and its height but a few inches above the surface of the stream. Georgia contains two villages, known as Georgia and West Georgia; three churches — Baptist, Congregational, and Methodist; sixteen school districts; an academy; and three post-offices — Georgia, East Georgia, and West Georgia: also, four stores; three wheelwright shops, four blacksmith's shops; and one tannery. The Vermont and Canada Railroad passes through Georgia. Population, 2,686; valuation, \$497,086.

GLASTENBURY, in the central part of Bennington county, about 110 miles from Montpelier, is a mountainous, broken township, which was chartered by New Hampshire to Captain Samuel Robinson and sixty-one others, August 20, 1761, and contains about 25,000 acres. A few settlements were commenced in the northwest part very early; — Henry

and Francis Matteson being among the settlers,—and the town was organized March 31, 1834, but its population never amounted to one hundred persons. A great part of it is of such mountainous and broken character as to be incapable of settlement. The town contains one school district, and one saw-mill; but has neither meeting-house nor post-office; and but few comfortable dwellings for the inhabitants that claim to live here. Population, 52; valuation, \$20,181.

GLOVER, in the southern part of Orleans county, thirty-three miles from Montpelier, was granted June 27, 1781, and chartered to General John Glover and sixty-two others, November 20, 1783. The settlement was commenced about the year 1797, by Ralph Parker, James Vance, Samuel Cook, and Samuel Conant. It advanced very slowly for some years, and in 1800 there were but thirty-eight persons in town.

The surface is very uneven, consisting of hills and valleys; and in the south part is a small mountain, called Black Hill. The town is watered principally by the head branches of Barton river; branches of the Passumpsic, Lamoille,<sup>1</sup> and Black river, also rise here. There are

<sup>1</sup> Long pond, now better known by the name of *Runaway pond*, was situated partly in this township and partly in Greensborough. It was one and a half miles long, and about half a mile wide, and discharged its waters to the south, forming one of the head branches of the river Lamoille. On the 6th of June, 1810, about sixty persons went to this pond for the purpose of opening an outlet to the north into Barton river, that the mills on that stream might receive from it an occasional supply of water. A small channel was excavated, and the water commenced running in a northerly direction. It happened that the northern barrier of the pond consisted entirely of quicksand, except an incrusting of clay next the water. The sand was immediately removed by the current, and a large channel formed. The basin formed by the incrustation of clay was incapable of sustaining the incumbent mass of waters, and it broke. The whole pond immediately took a northerly course, and, in fifteen minutes from this time, its bed was left entirely bare. It was discharged so suddenly that the country below was instantly inundated. The deluge advanced like a wall of waters sixty or seventy feet in height and twenty rods in width, levelling the forests and the hills, and filling up the valleys, and sweeping off mills, houses, barns, fences, cattle, horses, and sheep as it passed, for the distance of more than ten miles, and barely giving the inhabitants sufficient notice of its approach to escape with their lives into the mountains. A rock, supposed to weigh more than one hundred tons, was removed half a mile from its bed. The waters moved so rapidly as to reach Memphremagog lake, distant twenty-seven miles, in about six hours from the time they left the pond. Nothing now remains of the pond but its bed, a part of which is cultivated, and a part overgrown with trees, bushes, and wild grass, with a small brook running through it, which is now the head branch of Barton river. The channel through which the waters escaped is 127 feet in depth and several rods in width. A pond, some distance below, was at first entirely filled with sand, which has since settled down, and it is now about one half its former dimensions. Marks of the ravages are still to be seen through nearly the whole course of Barton river.

four natural ponds, called Glover, in the northern part; Daniel's, in the western part; Chambers, near the centre; and Mud pond, in the south-eastern part. Some iron ore has been discovered here; also, several beds of marl, which makes excellent lime. There are three villages — Glover, West Glover, and South Glover; three church edifices — two Congregational and one Universalist; twelve school districts, and four parts of districts; the Orleans Liberal Institute; and one post-office: also, the Glover Flouring Mill Corporation, one grist-mill, seven saw-mills, one tannery, one cabinet and chair-maker's shop, one carriage shop, two blacksmith's shops, and several boot and shoe shops. Population, 1,137; valuation, \$297,076.

GOSHEN, in the southeastern part of Addison county, thirty-one miles from Montpelier, was granted February 23, 1782, and chartered to John Powell, William Douglass, and sixty-three others, February 2, 1792. It received a new charter, November 1, 1798, and the first permanent settlement was commenced about the year 1800. The town was organized March 29, 1814, and originally contained 14,000 acres; but, after numerous legislative acts, it is not quite so easy to make out how far it is identified in form and size with the original grant. On the 9th of November, 1814, the north half of Philadelphia was annexed to the town, adding 11,000 acres; next, the north part of Goshen was annexed to Ripton; November 10, 1847, a part of Goshen was annexed to Rochester; November 11, 1854, Goshen Gores in Caledonia county were severed from the jurisdiction of this town, with which they were chartered. A large part of the surface is mountainous, but there is some very good land, and the settlement has advanced somewhat within a few years. Leicester river rises in Hancock, and runs through the township in a westerly direction. Philadelphia river originates in the south part. Iron ore and the oxide of manganese are found here. The town contains two church edifices (Methodist), and four school districts. The chief occupations are in agriculture and lumbering. There are four saw-mills. Population, 486; valuation, \$80,610.

GOSHEN GORES, one in the northwest, and the other in the southwest part of Caledonia county, formerly belonged to the town of Goshen, in Addison county, but were severed from its jurisdiction, November 11, 1854. They were chartered by Vermont, with Goshen — second charter — November 1, 1798. The former, joining Danville upon the west, is the largest, containing 7,339 acres; and was first permanently settled by Elihu Sabin in 1802. It contains a pond of eighty acres,



and is watered by a branch of the Lamoille river. Population, 183. The other gore, which contained 2,828 acres, was, by act of the legislature, November 14, 1855, ordered to be annexed, together with Harris gore, to Plainfield, if that town should accept the act; but it was rejected. Gunner's branch passes through the south part. The population in 1850 was 32.

GRAFTON, in the northern part of Windham county, ninety miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, April 8, 1754, to Jonathan Whitney and sixty-four others, and rechartered September 1, 1763, by the name of Tomlinson, which was altered to the one it now bears October 31, 1791. The first permanent settlement was made in 1780, by Amos Fisher, Samuel Spring, Benjamin Latherbee, and Edward Putnam. Prior to this time, in 1768, a Mr. Hinkley and two others, with their families, began a settlement on Hinkley brook, which they soon after abandoned. The early settlers came from Winchester, N. H.

The town was organized in 1781, and contained at that time 23,040 acres, which was increased in 1816 by the addition of a part of Athens, and Avery's gore: in November, 1846, a part of this town was set off to Athens, leaving it with but a little more than its original size. The surface has a very uneven cast, and abounds in a great variety of minerals. Soapstone is found in immense quantities, and worked to a considerable extent. Water is supplied principally by Saxton's river, which is formed by the union of several branches. A branch of Williams's river runs through the north part. These streams afford several very good mill privileges. There are two small villages — Grafton and Houghtonsville, and a part of Cambridgeport, in Rockingham; two church edifices — Congregationalist and Baptist; thirteen school districts; and two post-offices — Grafton and Houghtonsville: also, two woollen manufactories, the soapstone works, and cabinet and carriage makers' shops. Population, 1,241; valuation, \$367,743.

GRANBY, in the southerly part of Essex county, forty-seven miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, October 10, 1761, to Elihu Hall. The first organization took place, February 27, 1798. A prosperous settlement had been formed previously to the year 1800, and the numbers continued to increase with considerable rapidity till after the year 1810; but, when the cold seasons commenced, the people began to abandon their settlements, and continued to leave till 1816, when only three families remained, and the town lost its organization. After this period the numbers began to increase, and it was reorganized

in January, 1822. A branch of Paul's stream, one of the head branches of Moose river, and some other small streams, rise here. A small amount of business is done in the manufacture of lumber and sugar-boxes: The town has one village, one post-office, one church — Congregational; three school districts and two schools. Population, 127; valuation, \$28,503.

GRAND ISLE, Grand Isle county, has the lake on all sides except the south, where it is bounded by South Hero, and is fifty miles from Montpelier and eighteen from Burlington. This island and the one next north were chartered by Vermont, October 27, 1779, to Ethan Allen, Samuel Herrick, and 363 others, under the name of the "Two Heros," embracing about 25,000 acres. The two towns of North and South Hero were constituted October 21, 1788, this town being included within the latter, which was divided November 7, 1798, the south part of the island retaining its old name, and the north part receiving the name of Middle Hero. This name was changed November 5, 1810, to Grand Isle, which covers an area of 9,515 acres. The town was organized March 7, 1799. The settlement was commenced about the year 1783, by Alexander Gordon, William Hazen, and Lamberton Allen. For many years the progress of the settlement was slow by reason of sickness and its concomitant miseries. Fever and ague and bilious fevers, engendered by noxious vapors from the low marshy grounds and the surrounding waters, were quite prevalent and fatal. Extreme scarcity of provisions presented an additional obstacle, and hunting and fishing were for some time the only means of subsistence for the settlers.

There are some considerable hills, but nothing deserving the name of a mountain. The soil is rich, producing corn and other grain in abundance; and there are several small streams. The town has one village, called the Centre, and sometimes Brown's Corners; one post-office; two church edifices — Congregational and Methodist; and five school districts: also, two stores. Population, 666; valuation, \$305,842.

GRAND ISLE COUNTY consists of three islands and a peninsula in the northern part of Lake Champlain, embracing an area of eighty-two square miles. It was incorporated in November, 1805, having belonged to Chittenden county from 1787. No permanent settlement was made here till after the close of the Revolutionary war. The surface is generally level, and the soil rich and productive. The streams are small, and scarcely a good mill privilege can be found. The early inhabitants were troubled with fevers and miasma, induced by stagnant waters; but since the lands have been cleared and cultivated, the hygienic condition

of the islands has greatly improved. The Vermont and Canada Railroad crosses the lake to Rouse's Point by the peninsula. The county has five towns, of which North Hero is the shire. The supreme court sits annually in January, and the county courts in February and August. Population, 4,145; valuation, \$46,094.

GRANVILLE, in the eastern part of Addison county, twenty-two miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and was chartered August 7, 1781, to Reuben King, and sixty-three others by the name of Kingston. Mr. King was the first settler, arriving in 1785. The town was organized July 8, 1788. A part of Avery's gore was annexed to it November 6, 1833, and the name of the town was changed to Granville, November 6, 1834. It contains 28,646 acres, much of which is mountainous. The pass over the Green Mountains in this town is at an altitude of 2,340 feet above the sea level. White river is formed here by the union of several considerable branches. On one of these is a fall of one hundred feet, fifty of which at the lower part is perpendicular, having worn a basin ten feet deep in the rock below. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through the extreme northeast corner of the town, which has one village; one post-office; one church edifice — Union; and seven school districts: also, four saw-mills with water power, one with steam power, and a stave machine attached; one scythe snath factory, and two clapboard machines. Population, 603; valuation, \$108,345.

GREENSBOROUGH, in the extreme south part of Orleans county, twenty-seven miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered August 20, 1781, to Harris Colt and sixty-six others. Messrs. Tolman and Wood visited and spent three days in this place, in the spring of 1787; but the first permanent settlement was not commenced till the spring of 1789, when Ashbel and Aaron Shepard with their families moved in from Newbury. The hardships which the first settlers had to endure were very considerable. Aaron Shepard removed his family to Coös in August, and returned in March following, accompanied by his brother Horace and family. During their absence, his brother Ashbel and family were the only persons in town, their nearest neighbors being not less than six miles off, in Craftsbury and Cabot. In 1790, Joseph Stanley with his family arrived, and the same year the Hon. Timothy Stanley erected the first saw-mill on the outlet of Caspian lake. Other improvements were made shortly after, and several other families moved in, so that in 1795 there were twenty-three families and one hundred and eight persons in the settlement.

The town was organized March 29, 1792, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is uneven, but the elevations are not generally abrupt. The soil is of a middling quality; but, on account of its being situated about the head waters of several considerable rivers, much of it is wet and cold, and the crops are liable to suffer by frost. The river Lamoille is the principal stream, and the largest body of water is Caspian lake, or **Lake Beautiful**, which lies in the south part, and discharges its waters to the east into the Lamoille, affording a number of valuable mill privileges, around which has grown up a beautiful little village. There are several other ponds. The town has one village, two church edifices — Congregational and Presbyterian; fourteen school districts, each of which has a school-house; and two post-offices — Greensborough and North Greensborough: also, one grist-mill, five saw-mills, one starch factory, one sash, door, and blind factory, and other usual mechanic shops. Population, 1,008; valuation, \$312,103.

GROTON, in the extreme south part of Caledonia county, sixteen miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered to Thomas Butterfield and seventy-seven others, October 20, 1789. The settlement was commenced in 1787 by Messrs. James, Abbott, Morse, and Osmore. The town was organized March 27, 1797, and contains 28,300 acres. The surface is generally uneven, rough, and stony; but there is some very good land in the northeast and northwestern parts. Wells river and some of its branches afford several good mill privileges. Wells river pond, through which the river passes, in the north part, is three miles long and three quarters of a mile wide, and has an altitude of one thousand feet above the sea. Little pond, in the southeastern part, covering about one hundred acres, lies in the course of Wells river; and Kettle pond, covering about forty acres, lies in the northwest corner. In the south part of the township is an extensive bank of white clay, which is a very good substitute for chalk, and which has been used instead of lime in plastering. Groton has one village and one post-office; one church edifice, occupied by Methodists and Presbyterians; and ten school districts: also, one grist-mill, six saw-mills, one tannery, and one axe manufactory. Population, 895; valuation, \$227,342.

GUILDHALL, Essex county, is the shire town, and joins New Hampshire, being distant from Montpelier, in a northeasterly direction, fifty miles. It was chartered by New Hampshire, October 10, 1761, to Elisha Hall and sixty-four others. The settlement was commenced in the lower part of the town, — which was then thought to be a part of Lunenburg, — in 1764, by David Page, Timothy Nash, and George

Wheeler. Enoch Hall, Micah Amy, and James Rosbrook joined the settlement in 1775; Eleazer Rosbrook and Samuel Page in 1778; and David Hopkinson, Reuben and Simeon Howe, in 1779. The first settlers encountered many hardships and privations for a number of years. During the Revolutionary war, they were in continual alarm; and were frequently annoyed by the Indians and tories, who killed their cattle, plundered their houses, and carried a number of the inhabitants into captivity.

Guildhall was organized some time prior to March, 1785, but the exact date is not known. The surface, except on the river, is uneven, hard, and rocky; but the intervals and flats are mellow and fertile. Burnside and Cow mountains are considerable elevations. Connecticut river washes the east side of the town; its other waters being Cutler's Mill brook and Burnside brook. There is a small village in the northeast corner (Guildhall Falls), containing the county buildings, at which is also a good bridge across Connecticut river. There is another bridge connecting this place with Lancaster, N. H. The falls here are 835 feet above the sea level. The trade is mostly in lumber. The town has a saw-mill, grist-mill, and carriage manufactory: also, one church—Congregational; seven school districts, and the Essex Grammar-School. Population, 501; valuation, \$139,000.

GUILFORD, in the southern part of Windham county, 130 miles from Montpelier, was chartered April 2, 1754, by New Hampshire, to Elijah Williams and fifty-eight others, most of whom were from Massachusetts. At this time the town was a perfect wilderness; yet, according to the terms of the charter, the proprietors were to meet on the 1st of May for the choice of officers, and on the first Tuesday of March ever afterwards. Under this grant the town was organized, and by it, either expressed or implied, the grantees claimed the power of transacting town business by a majority vote, subject only to the control of the parliament of England, from which they had little to fear. In early times, they held their meetings at Greenfield, Northfield, Hinsdale, or Brattleboro', or wherever else it might suit their convenience: the first meeting at Guilford was in 1765. The first land was cleared in 1758, by Jonathan and Elisha Hunt; but no settlement was made until Micah Rice came here with his family in September, 1761, who was soon followed by Jonathan Bigelow, John Barney, Daniel Lynds, William Bigelow, Ebenezer Goodenow, Paul Chase, Thomas Cutler, John Shepardson, and others; and, in 1764, after having obtained an extension at three different times, the charter was confirmed to the proprietors. Settlers were coming in rapidly

every year, and in a short time Guilford was, numerically, the largest town in the state.

It appears by what records have been preserved,<sup>1</sup> that the government of the town was vested in a set of officers elected annually by the people, under the authority of the charter, until the 19th of May, 1772, at which time the inhabitants annulled the charter government, and, by a majority vote, declared Guilford to be in Cumberland county and the province of New York; and the town officers were chosen agreeably to the laws of that province. In 1776, the whigs and new-state-men obtained the control of the town government, which they retained for two years. Tories were not permitted to go to the polls to vote, and the title of the town, as belonging to New York, was left out of the records.

The "beech seal" was very popular as a means for the punishment of offenders, particularly Yorkers and tories; but the most disgraceful and humiliating punishment that could be inflicted upon the latter was to compel them to embrace the liberty pole with both arms. In 1778, the government of the town again changed hands, and, the Yorkers being in power, excluded the other party from the polls *vi et armis*, and retained the control of the government of the town until 1783. The whigs kept up their government also, but the records of their proceedings are not to be found. Both parties had their committees, and the Yorkers, although in authority, could not alone govern the town; but, with the assistance of the tories, they could prevent any thing being done by the whigs. In this state of things, Ethan Allen arrived in town at the head of one hundred "Green Mountain Boys," and issued the following proclamation, concluding it with an oath: "I, Ethan Allen, declare that, unless the people of Guilford peaceably submit to the authority of Vermont, the town shall be made as desolate as were the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah." The Yorkers, having fired upon Allen and his company, were pursued, and all either taken prisoners or dispersed. Many sharp verbal as well as physical encounters,<sup>2</sup> some of them of quite an amusing character, have been recorded as having

<sup>1</sup> Such was the state of affairs between the political parties in this town — whigs and new-state-men on the one side, and tories and Yorkers on the other — that neither party dare keep any records of public affairs. Tradition says, that, during the seven years preceding the admission of Vermont into the Union, the government of Guilford was a perfect rule of anarchy. The Yorkers, although they had the town books, dared not record their proceedings in them, and both parties kept secret their own records. During this confusion and jealousy, one party stole the records of the other, and buried them with their own under the pound, together with many deeds and proprietors' papers; and when discovered years afterwards, the documents were totally spoiled, and could not be read.

<sup>2</sup> *Hall's Eastern Vermont*, *passim*.

taken place at Guilford. The authority of the New York government was completely wiped out here; and, in March, 1791, Guilford was duly organized under the constitution and laws of Vermont. When the town was under the rule of the tories and New York sympathizers, refugees from neighboring states flocked here; but when the law came, they fled, and New York made provision for them by grants of land. Almost the whole town of Bainbridge, in that state, was settled by emigrants from Guilford. But migrations from this town have not altogether "trended to the westward;" many towns in the middle and northern parts of Vermont have been settled by inhabitants from Old Guilford.

Hon. Benjamin Carpenter, who moved into this town in 1770, and lived here until his death in 1804, was one of the framers of the first constitution of the state, an officer in the Revolutionary war, lieutenant-governor of the state in 1779, and a member of the council of censors in 1783. Hon. John Shepardson, one of the early settlers, was a firm supporter of the Revolution, and held the offices of judge of the supreme court, and member of the council, for several years. William Bigelow, another of the early settlers, was also a man of some distinction, and held the office of judge of the county court for some years. Royall Tyler, James Elliot, Richard Whitney, Micah Townshend, Henry Seymour, Gilbert Denison, Samuel Elliot, John Noyes, and many others who have been residents of Guilford, at a later period have been more or less identified with the history of the state. Wilbur Fiske, late president of the Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn., was a native of this town.

Guilford is hilly, but not mountainous, and nearly the whole of the town is capable of cultivation. There are four villages — Guilford, Guilford Centre, Green River, and West Guilford, at the first three of which there are post-offices. The town also contains five church edifices — Episcopal, Congregational, Universalist, Methodist, and Baptist; and fourteen school districts: also, four saw-mills, three grist-mills, one considerable wagon and sleigh factory, one oil mill, and one extensive paper manufactory. There is an inexhaustible supply of roofing slate in this town, which was, for a time, successfully quarried; but since the opening of similar quarries in Maine, where there are better facilities for transportation, the business here has declined. Population, 1,389; valuation, \$448,909.

HALIFAX, in the south part of Windham county, adjoining Massachusetts, 120 miles from Montpelier, being the second town granted in this state by New Hampshire, was chartered May 11, 1750, to Oliver

and Samuel Partridge and fifty-seven others, in sixty-four lots, and contains 24,018 acres. In the centre of the town was a large space of a hexagonal shape taken from the surrounding lots for public uses. Settlements are said to have been commenced in 1751, but those who undertook them were not able to prosecute their plans on account of the hostility of the Indians. After the reduction of Canada, efforts were renewed with better success. In 1761, Abner Rice came from Worcester county, Mass.; and was joined, in 1763, by others from Coleraine and Pelham, Mass. The precise date of organization is not known, but was about the year 1770; the records commence March 3, 1778. In 1771, there was a population of 329. During the fierce controversy with New York, a majority of the people seem to have adhered to the policy of that state, and the town was one of the theatres of meetings and of military movements; but when the authority of this state had become a fixed fact, and the general assembly had passed the resolution of October 23, 1783, offering free and ample pardon to all persons residing in the southern part of Windham county, who, having previously opposed constituted authority, should then take the oath of allegiance before any justice of the peace within thirty days, this town was one of the earliest to comply.

The surface is uneven, but there are no mountains worthy of notice. The soil is well adapted to the production of grass, and much attention is devoted to the raising of cattle and the keeping of dairies. The town is watered by North and Green rivers, the former of which runs through the western and southern part, and the latter through the northeastern. They are both large and commodious mill streams. In one place on the branch of North river, there is a succession of cascades, extending about one hundred rods. The falls are from fifteen to twenty feet each, and are overlooked by the projecting rocks on the right, in ascending the stream. The place is visited by the curious, and the scene which presents itself is rugged, wild, and romantic. On the margin of the same river is a cavern, called Woodard's Cave, or Dun's Den, which is twenty-five feet in length, five in width, and the same in height, the sides and top being of solid rock. There are two villages; four church edifices — two Baptist, a Congregational, and Universalist; a high school, fourteen school districts, and three post-offices — Halifax, West Halifax, and South Halifax: also, two grist-mills, eight saw-mills, one tannery, three broom-handle establishments, one shop for making chairs, and two boot shops. Population, 1,133; valuation, \$282,009.

HANCOCK, in the southeastern part of Addison county, thirty miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered July 31,



1781, to Samuel Wilcox and one hundred and twenty-nine others. The settlement was commenced in 1788 by Joseph Butts from Canterbury, Conn., Daniel Claflin from New Salem, and John Bellows from Dalton, Mass., with their families. Several young men also began improvements the same year, among whom were Zenas Robbins and Levi Darling. Hancock was organized June 18, 1792, containing 23,040 acres. The whole of this town lies upon the Green Mountains, but the principal ridge is on the western side. The surface is high and broken, and suitable for grass rather than tillage crops. Emerson's branch of White river, the sixth branch of the same, and Leicester river, all rise near the southwest corner. Middlebury river also takes its rise in the western part; affording, in connection with the other streams, excellent mill privileges, which have been improved in a measure. There is a Union meeting-house, occupied by all denominations. There are six school districts, and one post-office: also, a tannery and two stores. Population, 430; valuation, \$97,945.

HARDWICK, at the extreme west of Caledonia county, twenty-one miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered August 19, 1781, to Danforth Keyes and sixty-six others. Soon after it was chartered, a man by the name of Safford made a beginning, but was soon discouraged and left the place. About the year 1790, the first permanent settlement was made, by several families of the name of Norris, from New Hampshire. Porter Page came in about the same time, and also a number of families by the name of Sabin, among whom was Gideon Sabin, whose wife was the mother of twenty-six children.

The town was organized March 7, 1795, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is pleasantly diversified with large swells and vales, but no part of it is mountainous. It is watered by the river Lamoille and its tributaries. This river enters the town from Greensborough; and, taking a circuitous course, passes through it in a westerly direction into Wolcott. These streams furnish a number of mill privileges. There are three small villages, the oldest of which, called Hardwick, or Hazen's Road, is situated on high land near the north line; the second, called East Hardwick, is on the river Lamoille, in the eastern part; and the third and largest, called Lamoilleville, or South Hardwick, is on the same river, in the southwest part of the town. Each of these villages has a post-office, a number of mechanic shops and stores, and the last two possess excellent water privileges, on which are several saw-mills and grist-mills. There are three church edifices—Methodist, Congregational, and Baptist; and fifteen school districts: also, two tanneries. Population, 1,402; valuation, \$505,047.

**HARTFORD**, in the northeastern part of Windsor county, on the Connecticut river, opposite Lebanon, N. H., and forty-two miles from Montpelier, was the first town chartered in this state by New Hampshire. The charter was granted to Prince Tracy and sixty others, dated July 4, 1761. The first settlers were Elijah, Solomon, and Benajah Strong, who emigrated from Lebanon, Conn., and came into this township with their families in 1764; these were joined the next year by twelve other families. Joseph Marsh, a very prominent man in the early history of this state, moved into Hartford from Lebanon, Conn., in 1772. He was a member of the convention of 1777, which drafted the first state constitution, — was the first lieutenant-governor, which office he held for several years in succession, and was for several years chief justice of the court for Windsor county. He died here in 1810.

Hartford was organized March 8, 1768, and contains 27,000 acres. A small portion of the southwest corner was annexed to Woodstock, November 12, 1852, and at the same time it acquired about as much from the northeast corner of Woodstock. The surface is broken, but the soil is rich and warm, and produces good grass and grain. It is watered by White and Quechee rivers, which afford very valuable privileges for mills and other machinery driven by water, particularly at the places called White River Village and Quechee Village. White River Village is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river of that name, about one mile from its mouth; and the river is here crossed by a handsome bridge. Quechee Village is situated around a considerable fall in Ottâ Quechee river, about five miles from its mouth. There is another bridge, called Lyman's, which crosses the Connecticut river; also, two other villages, called White River Junction and West Hartford. There are five church edifices—three Congregational, one Unitarian, and one Methodist; twenty-three school districts, and four post-offices — Hartford, Quechee, West Hartford, and White River Junction: also, one woollen factory, one rag cloth factory, an establishment for the manufacture of hay and manure forks, two grist-mills, four saw-mills, one plaster mill, and one chair-stuff factory. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through this town, and forms a connection at the village of White River Junction with the Northern Railroad and the Passumpsic River Railroad. Population, 2,159; valuation, \$831,643.

**HARTLAND**, in the eastern part of Windsor county, fifty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire to Samuel Hunt, July 10, 1761, by the name of Hertford, which was confirmed by New York to Oliver Willard, July 23, 1766. The name was changed to the one it now bears, June 15, 1782. The settlement was commenced by Timothy

Lull, from Dummerston, in May, 1763, at which time there were no inhabitants on Connecticut river between Charlestown, then No. 4, and Hartland; some settlers also being in Newbury, about forty miles to the north of this place. Mr. Lull purchased a log canoe, and proceeded in that up Connecticut river with his family, consisting of a wife and four children. He arrived at the mouth of a considerable brook in Hartland, where he landed, tied his canoe, and, breaking a junk bottle in the presence of his family, called the stream Lull's brook, by which name it has ever since been known. He proceeded up the brook about a mile to a log hut, which had been previously erected, near the place now known as Sumner's village. Here he spent his days. During the first few years of the settlement, Mr. Lull had to suffer many privations and hardships; but possessing a strong constitution and a vigorous mind, he overcame all obstacles, accumulated a handsome property, lived respected, and died generally lamented, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. The first settlers were mostly emigrants from Massachusetts and Connecticut.

A party of thirty armed men from this town and Barnard, under command of Robert Morrison, a Hartland blacksmith, and Benjamin Stebbins, a Barnard farmer, assembled near the Windsor court house at sunrise on the 31st of October, 1786, when a session of the common pleas was to commence, with the evident design of obstructing the court. Stephen Jacob, the state's attorney, and Benjamin Wait, the high sheriff, waited upon them,—read the riot act and several other acts relating to unlawful assemblages, and warned them to disperse, which they finally did. Morrison was afterwards arrested, pleaded guilty, was sentenced to a month's imprisonment, to procure bonds of £100 for his good behavior for two years, and to pay a fine of £10 and costs of suit. Others arrested with him were also punished. When the result of the trial had been announced, about fifty of the insurgents, mostly of Hartland, assembled under arms at the house of Captain Lull in this town, about five miles from the court house, determined to rescue Morrison from imprisonment, under order of, and accompanied by, sheriff Wait. Captain Dart, of Weathersfield, marched with forty men, and reached the house of Lull between three and four o'clock on the morning of November 17, approaching it by a circuitous course so as to escape the notice of the guard, and after a short but "very resolute" attack, captured twenty-seven of the insurgents, and lodged them in jail at Windsor before sunrise. They made very humble confession: fines were imposed, and they were put under bonds to keep the peace: but this did not prevent still another assemblage of about one hundred men at Lull's house, who, however, learning that the government had

six hundred men under arms at Windsor, and was too strong for them, took counsel of their fears, and disbanded.

Hartland was organized March 11, 1767, but officers do not appear to have been chosen before 1770. By the charter it had 25,350 acres. A few acres in the northwest corner were annexed to Woodstock, November 12, 1852. This is a rich farming township, and its surface is pleasantly diversified with hills and valleys. Connecticut river washes the eastern boundary, and at Quechee Falls, on this stream, are several mills, situated on the Hartland side. Quechee river runs across the northeast corner, and Lull's brook through the southern part, both of which afford some of the best mill privileges in the state. A valuable bed of paint, of excellent quality, has been found. There are three villages — Hartland, North Hartland, and Hartland Four Corners, with a post-office at each; four church edifices — Congregational, Methodist, Universalist, and Union; and twenty-two school districts: also, several grist-mills and saw-mills, and one woollen factory. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through this place. Population, 2,063; valuation, \$833,007.

HIGHGATE, in the northwest corner of Franklin county, fifty-four miles from Montpelier, and bounded west and north by Missisco bay, an arm of Lake Champlain, and by Canada, was chartered August 17, 1763, to Samuel Hunt and sixty-four others; and was first settled by John Hilliker and John Waggoner in 1784, and by other Germans, mostly soldiers, who had served in the British army during the Revolution; and John Sax built the first saw-mill and grist-mill. The township was first regularly surveyed in 1805, by John Johnson, and contained 23,040 acres. November 1, 1792, part of Alburgh was annexed to this town; and Marvin's gore was annexed October 23, 1806. A part of this town was set off to Swanton, November 3, 1836; and its present area is nearly 30,000 acres. The soil is mostly sandy; but in the southwest corner, which constitutes a part of what is called Hog Island, it is marshy. Bog-iron ore has been found in great abundance, and has been worked to some extent. The town is watered by Missisco and Rock rivers, the former of which has a fall of forty feet, about six miles above Swanton falls, affording some excellent mill privileges. There are three villages — Highgate Falls, East Highgate, and Sax's Mills, with a post-office at each; four church edifices — Congregational, Methodist, Episcopalian, and Roman Catholic; and twenty-five school districts: also, a furnace and plough manufactory, a scythe manufactory, three grist-mills, seven saw-mills, one machine-shop, two carriage shops, four stores, and two hotels. Population, 2,653; valuation, \$504,727.

HINESBURGH, in the southern part of Chittenden county, twenty-six miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 24, 1762, to David Ferris, Abel Hines, and sixty-three others. The first settler was Isaac Lawrence, with his family, from Canaan, Conn., whose wife is said to have lived ten months without seeing the face of any other woman, and the family at one time to have lived a while on dried pumpkins alone. They and Daniel Chaffy's family came here before the Revolutionary war, and left when the war commenced. Mr. Lawrence returned in 1783; and Jacob Meacham, Amos Andrews, Hezekiah Tuttle, George McEwen and family, and Eliphaz and George Steele, arrived shortly after.

The town was organized March 20, 1787, and contains about thirty-six square miles. The surface is somewhat hilly, though in the west part it is generally level, and the soil is fertile. There were some beaver meadows, one of which contained between one and two hundred acres, from which the first settlers derived much benefit. On the river Laplot is a rich tract of interval from a half mile to a mile and a half in width, and about four and a half miles in length, which, for fertility and beauty, is not exceeded by any land in the county. Water is furnished by Lewis creek, Laplot river, and Pond brook. On the first of these, Nathan Leavenworth, an early settler, erected a saw-mill and grist-mill in 1790, before which the settlers were obliged to go to Winooski falls or to Vergennes with their grists. There are two other streams, which take their rise in the eastern part of the town, one falling into the river Laplot, and the other, called Calkins, or Trout brook, emptying into Lewis creek in the north part of Monkton.

Among the improvements of the age worth noticing is an establishment called an "imperishable potato factory," — not for the manufacture of potatoes, as the name would seem to indicate, but where they undergo a process by which they are prepared for sea-stores. The potatoes are cleansed, pared, and reduced to a pulp; the moisture is evaporated by fresh currents of air made to pass in contact with the pulp, by means of machinery; the material is made to take the form of tubes (macaroni), and, when perfectly dry, is broken in a mill into samp or hominy. By this process of preparation, the potato loses one sixth of its original bulk and three fourths of its weight. For transportation it is packed in tight cans, and can be kept for any length of time. European vessels already make it an article among their stores, and the ships under charge of Dr. Kane were supplied with it. The villages are Hinesburgh, and Murray's and Patrick's Corners. There are three church edifices — Baptist, Methodist, and Congregational; an academy, seventeen school districts, and one post-office: also,

one small woollen factory, an iron foundery and machine-shop, several flour mills, one tannery, one wagon shop, and one harness shop. Population, 1,834; valuation, \$569,122.

HOLLAND, the northeast corner town of Orleans county, on the Canada line, fifty-six miles from Montpelier, was granted March 8, 1787, and chartered to Timothy Andrus and associates, October 26, 1789. The settlement was commenced in 1800, by Edmund Elliot and Joseph Cowal. The town was organized March 14, 1805, and contains thirty-six square miles. The surface is uneven, but not mountainous; and Mount John, in the southeast corner, is the only elevation which deserves the name of mountain. There is a large pond situated in the northeast part, and several small ponds, some of which have an outlet north into Canada, and some south into Clyde river.

On the 2d of July, 1833, this town was visited by a violent tornado, which commenced on Salem pond in Salem, and passed over this place in a northeasterly direction. It was from half to three quarters of a mile wide, and prostrated and scattered nearly all the trees, fences, and buildings in its course. It crossed the outlet of Norton pond, and passed into Canada, and its course could be traced through the forests nearly to Connecticut river. Holland has two church edifices—Congregational and Methodist; seven school districts, and one post-office: also, some saw-mills and a starch manufactory. Population, 669; valuation, \$150,000.

HUBBARDTON, in the northwestern part of Rutland county, fifty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 15, 1764, to Isaac Scarls and sixty-six others, and was intended to embrace 23,040 acres; but, in consequence of prior charters and surveys overlapping this, the measure did not hold out. A part was also annexed to Sudbury, November 7, 1806, and has left the area about 18,000 acres. It derived its name from Thomas Hubbard, a large proprietor; and the first attempts at settlement were made in the spring of 1774, by Uriah Hickok and William Trowbridge, with their families, from Norfolk, Conn. Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Hickok, was born on the first of August, of the same year, and died in September, 1776. This was the first birth and the first death in this town. In 1775, Samuel Churchill, William Spaulding, Abdiel Webster, Benjamin Hickok, Jesse Churchill, Benajah Boardman, and John Seleck moved their families here. These nine families constituted the whole population at the time the American army, under General St. Clair, evacuated Ticonderoga, July 6, 1777.

On the same day he with his army passed through Hubbardton, and left Colonels Warner, Hale, and Francis with their regiments as a rear guard. They encamped on the farm of John Seleck, near the spot where the Baptist meeting-house now stands. On the following night, Benjamin Hickok, with his own and the family of Uriah Hickok, left their homes, with the women and children on foot, in order to escape the danger. They stopped at the farm of Justin Hickok, in Castleton, for the night, expecting to pursue their journey in the morning with Colonel Bellows's regiment, which was encamped there. The Colonel had but just commenced his march when, hearing firing at Hubbardton, he marched back to the assistance of his companions, leaving these unfortunate families to pursue their flight unprotected and alone. Not arriving till after the battle had been decided, Colonel Bellows returned back to Castleton.

On the morning of the 7th of July, Seth Warner, having sent a detachment of about three hundred men to assist Samuel Churchill in getting away his family, had just begun their return march, when the battle commenced. Hearing the firing, they pushed forward as fast as possible to the assistance of their companions. The battle commenced about seven o'clock, by an attack of the British light troops under General Fraser, who, as soon as the retreat of the Americans had been perceived, pursued them with great eagerness. The American force consisted of Warner's, Francis's, and Hale's regiments; but Hale, fearful of the result, retired with his regiment, leaving Warner and Francis, with only seven or eight hundred men, to dispute the progress of the enemy.<sup>1</sup>

The conflict was fierce and bloody. Francis fell at the head of his regiment, fighting with great resolution and bravery. Warner, well sup-

<sup>1</sup> This statement is made upon the authority of Dr. Williams's History of Vermont, Vol. II. p. 106, and of Ethan Allen's Narrative, p. 139, Walpole edition, and may seem to imply a want of courage in that young officer. Reports were circulated unfavorable to the reputation of Colonel Hale, immediately after his surrender, but whether they were well founded, or originated, as many have supposed, in the envy of some of his inferior officers, who wished him cashiered to make room for their own promotion, it is difficult now to decide. When Colonel Hale heard these reports, he addressed a letter to General Washington, requesting that he might be exchanged, and have an opportunity to vindicate his character before a court-martial; but, before this could be effected, he died while a prisoner upon Long Island, in September, 1780, aged thirty-seven years.

As Colonel Hale and many of his men are known to have been in a feeble state of health, and consequently unfit for military service, and as the historians generally of that period attach no blame to his conduct, and especially as his character is said to have been irreproachable in other respects, we should certainly be doing wrong in allowing an imputation so injurious to his reputation, and so mortifying to his highly respectable descendants in this state, to rest upon his name without more conclusive proof of its having been deserved.

ported by his officers and men, charged the enemy with such impetuosity that they were thrown into disorder, and at first gave way. They however soon recovered, formed anew, and advanced upon the Americans, who in their turn fell back. At this critical moment, a reinforcement under General Riedesel arrived, which was immediately led into action, and the fortune of the day was soon decided. The Americans, overpowered by numbers and exhausted by fatigue, fled from the field in every direction. The loss of the Americans in this encounter was very considerable. Hale was overtaken by a party of the British, and surrendered himself and a number of his men prisoners of war. The whole American loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, was three hundred and twenty-four, of whom thirty were killed. The loss of the enemy in killed and wounded was one hundred and eighty three.<sup>1</sup>

Two of Mr. Churchill's sons, John and Silas, accompanied the detachment back to Hubbardton, and took part in the engagement. The latter was taken prisoner; but the former made his escape, and fled back to his residence, as did also the rest of the family, after having two of the horses wounded on which the women rode. Here they were surprised and all taken prisoners by Sherwood and his party, who had been lurking on the hills east of the town during the action. The men and boys were taken away, the house plundered, and the women ordered by Sherwood to leave it that it might be set on fire; but, in consequence of their tears and entreaties, the house was spared. Sherwood, suspecting that Mr. Churchill had flour concealed, ordered the Indians to take him into the woods and burn him, unless he informed them where it was; but, after all the horrible preparations had been made for the enforcement of the order, as he steadfastly denied having concealed any, Sherwood at length released him. Mr. Churchill and his sons, John, Silas, and Ezekiel, together with Messrs. Hickok, Keeler, and Kellogg, were carried to Ticonderoga, while William Churchill, who was lame, and the females and younger persons of the families, were left to take care of themselves. A part of these made their way to Castleton; but Mr. Churchill's family, consisting of four women, two boys, one of whom was lame, and two small children, made their way, some on foot and some on horseback, over the Green Mountains to Charlestown, — then No. 4, — thence to Springfield, Mass., and thence over the mountain to Sheffield, Conn., the place from which they emigrated. The men, who were detained as prisoners at Ticonderoga, were confined during the night and required to labor during the day. Messrs. Churchill and

<sup>1</sup> This number is given on the authority of Gordon, Williams, and others, as also of Ethan Allen.



Hickok, who were employed in boating wood, watched their opportunity, landed on the eastern shore, and made their escape. They proceeded to Hubbardton, but found the town deserted and desolate. In Mr. Hickok's house was the putrid carcase of a dead man, and numerous others with fragments of fire-arms and clothing were scattered promiscuously in the vicinity of the battle ground.<sup>1</sup> They left this heart-sickening scene, and went in pursuit of their families. Mr. Hickok found his family at Castleton; and Mr. Churchill succeeded in finding his in Connecticut. The other prisoners mentioned remained at Ticonderoga till October, when they were retaken by Colonel Brown.

In 1780, most of the families which had been driven off had returned, and but few additions were made to the settlement till 1783. In 1784, the people turned out and collected the bones, which had been bleaching for seven years upon the battle ground, and buried them. Hubbardton was organized in March, 1785. The surface is uneven and somewhat mountainous, and the soil various, but generally good. The most noted summit is Mount Zion, so named by Ethan Allen. There are several natural ponds, the largest of which is Gregory's, about three miles long and one broad, lying partly in Sudbury. At its outlet are excellent mill privileges, which have been improved to some extent, and are surrounded by a pleasant little village. Berbe's pond, situated a mile northwest of the centre of the town, is one and a half miles long and a mile wide, and discharges south into lake Bombazine. Besides the ponds just noticed, there are several smaller ones, called Round, Marsh, Keeler's, Black, and Howland's, the last of which discharges into Otter creek. There are two church edifices — Baptist and Congregational; ten school districts and school-houses; and two post-offices — Hubbardton and East Hubbardton: also, one grist-mill, three saw-mills, two tanneries, and five blacksmith's shops. Population, 701; valuation, \$246,800.

HUNTINGTON, in the southern part of Chittenden county, twenty miles from Montpelier, was chartered June 7, 1763, to Edward Burling and sixty-six others, by the name of New Huntington, containing about thirty-six square miles, which was altered to the name it now bears October 27, 1795. By act passed October 27, 1794, the northwesterly part of this township was annexed to Richmond, and the northeasterly part to Bolton, and at the same time the north part of Avery's and Buel's gores was annexed to this town, probably leaving it somewhat

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Boardman with two children was in the house, which was surrounded by the contending armies during the battle, and, as there was no cellar, she took shelter under the bed, where she remained till the battle was over.

reduced in area. The settlement was commenced in March, 1786, by Jehiel Johns and Elisha Bradley, emigrants from Manchester and Sunderland. The town was organized March 29, 1790. The surface is very uneven, consisting of high mountains and deep gullies. That celebrated summit of the Green Mountains, called Camel's Hump, 4,083 feet above the sea, is partly within the town. There are some farms which produce tolerable crops, but the soil is in most parts rocky and poor. Huntington river is the principal stream, and affords some convenient mill privileges. There are two villages—North and South Huntington; two church edifices—one owned by the Baptists, and another by the Methodists and Free-will Baptists; ten school districts, and one post-office: also, a wheelwright and machine-shop, and three stores. Population, 885; valuation, \$311,761.

HYDEPARK, Lamoille county, is the shire town, and is twenty-seven miles from Montpelier. It was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered to Jedediah Hyde and others, August 27, 1781. The original grantees were mostly residents of Norwich, Conn., and men who had distinguished themselves in the land or naval service during the Revolution. The settlement was commenced by John McDaniel, who brought his family here July 4, 1787, from Northfield, N. H. At this time the nearest settlements were at Johnson on the west, and at Cabot on the east; the former distant eight miles, and the latter twenty-six. The intervening country was a perfect wilderness, with no road or guide except marked trees. Mr. McDaniel was joined the same season by William Norton, from New York; and these two men with their families were the only persons who passed the next winter in town. In the spring of 1788, Captain Jedediah Hyde, Peter Martin, Jabez Fitch and sons, and Ephraim Garvin arrived. Aaron Keeler, Truman Sawyer, Oliver Noyes, N. P. Sawyer, and others came within a few years. The settlement was named Hyde park in the charter, as a compliment to Captain Jedediah Hyde, the first person named in that instrument. Jedediah Hyde, Jr. was a proprietor, surveyed the town, and drew the charter.<sup>1</sup>

The following short biographies of some of the pioneers of this town may prove of interest: John McDaniel, the first settler, was a man of strong mind and passions, with a retentive memory, social and friendly, and was esteemed a father by the first settlers. His house was always

<sup>1</sup> This charter, a part of which is in German text, drawn with red ink, the rest in black ink, and having all the names in imitation of print, is now in the possession of R. B. Hyde, a son of the Captain. It is on parchment, and is a literary curiosity.

opened to the poor and wayfaring man. He died, respected and lamented, August 12, 1834, in his eighty-sixth year. Captain Jedediah Hyde had the command of a company in the Revolution, and served in the navy. He was quite noted for his politeness and easy address. He died May 29, 1822, in his eighty-sixth year. Jabez Fitch served two campaigns in the old French war, held a commission in the first two campaigns of the Revolution, was captured by the British on Long Island, and endured an eighteen months' imprisonment, and on board of several of their prison ships experienced cruelties then too often practised by British naval officers. He kept a narrative while a prisoner, and a diary of events for nearly forty years, both of which are now in the possession of his descendants. He also contributed to the periodicals of the day; and died February 29, 1812, aged seventy-five. At the time this town was settled, there resided here an Indian and his squaw, named Joe and Molly, who were of much service to the first settlers.

Hydepark was organized in 1791, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is generally level, though there is a ridge of high lands running northerly and southerly. There is a variety of soil,—the rich bottoms on the rivers, the elevated sandy plains, and the rich loam or clay and marly lands. The town is watered by Lamoille and Green rivers, and by Mill and Carter brooks. There are several ponds, containing from half an acre to fifty acres each.

Hydepark village is situated in the southwest part of the town on a beautiful elevated plain, and contains a court-house, jail, and jailer's house, built by the inhabitants in 1836, at which time it became the seat of justice for Lamoille county. Hydepark has a Union meeting-house, the Lamoille Central Academy, nineteen school districts, the Lamoille County Bank, and two post-offices—Hydepark and North Hydepark. The principal manufactures are starch, and boots and shoes. Population, 1,107; valuation, \$343,852.

IRA, in the central part of Rutland county, is of a triangular form, about fourteen miles long, and two wide at the south end, and running to a point towards the north; and is sixty miles from Montpelier. It was organized May 31, 1779. A part of it (1,825 acres) was taken October 28, 1784, for a portion of the new town of Middletown; and a part of the west side of Clarendon was annexed to Ira, November 9, 1854. Its present area is supposed to be about 12,000 acres. The surface is rather mountainous,—Bird's mountain, in the north part, being the principal elevation, which is high and abrupt. Ira brook rises in the south part, runs northeasterly, and joins Furnace brook in Clarendon. Castleton river crosses the township in a westerly direction. Mill privi-

leges are not very good. Ira has a Baptist meeting-house, seven school districts, a select school, and one post-office: also, three wagon shops. Population, 400; valuation, \$197,093.

IRASBURGH, situated in the centre of Orleans county, forty miles from Montpelier, is the shire town. Ira Allen and his associates obtained the charter, February 23, 1781. Mr. Allen was the principal proprietor, and from him the town derives its name. The settlement was commenced some time previous to the year 1800, and it was organized March 12, 1803. The town contains 23,040 acres. The first tier of lots in Lowell contiguous to and adjoining Irasburgh were annexed to the latter, November 18, 1852. The surface is somewhat diversified with gentle hills and valleys. The soil is easy to cultivate, and produces good crops. Black river passes through in a northeasterly direction, receiving a number of small streams; but its current is generally moderate, and it affords but a few mill privileges. Barton river just touches upon the eastern corner. In the spring of 1827, a shirt of mail, which is doubtless of European origin, was found by Shubael Goodell. At what time it was left here, or by whom, it is not possible to ascertain. It was purchased by Lieutenant Wilson, United States Artillery, and is now deposited in the National Institute at Washington. Irasburgh has one village; three church edifices — Methodist, Congregational, and Baptist; the court-house and jail; a post-office; twelve school districts and thirteen schools; and the Orleans County Bank, with a capital of \$50,000: also, shops for making wagons and harnesses. Population, 1,034; valuation, \$345,629.

ISLE LA MOTT is the most westerly island of those embraced within Grand Isle county, close to the main channel of Lake Champlain, and twenty-eight miles from Burlington. It was chartered to Benjamin Wait and ninety-five others, October 27, 1789, with the name it now bears, which was altered to Vineyard, November 1, 1802, and changed back to Isle La Mott, November 6, 1830. The first settlers were Ebenezer Hyde, Enoch Hall, William Blanchard, and Ichabod Fitch, who commenced their efforts for redeeming the wilderness in 1785. The town was organized March 24, 1791, and contains 4,620 acres. A marsh extends across the island from east to west, which abounds with excellent cedar. The rocks are limestone, and are extensively quarried for building purposes. The island is destitute of streams. Isle La Mott has one church edifice — Methodist Episcopal; a select school, two school districts, and one post-office. The chief manufacturing is in marble. Population, 476; valuation, \$125,790.

**JAMAICA**, in the northwestern part of Windham county, ninety miles from Montpelier, was chartered to General Samuel Fletcher and fifty-three others, November 7, 1780, on the payment, for each right, of £9 lawful money, in silver or other current funds; and the settlement was commenced about the same time by William, Benjamin, and Caleb Howard and several others, who emigrated from Mendon, Mass. The town was organized September 3, 1781, and contains 29,017 acres, the surface being broken and mountainous, and the elevations rocky; but the soil is generally warm and productive. Limestone exists in the eastern part, and lime is manufactured to some extent. Water is supplied by West river and its tributaries, affording numerous and excellent mill privileges. Jamaica has two villages—Jamaica Centre and Rawsonville; three church edifices—Congregational, Baptist, and Universalist; fourteen school districts; the West River Bank, with a capital of \$50,000; and one post-office: also, two founderies, and several wooden-ware shops. Population, 1,606; valuation, \$410,919.

**JAY**, in the northwest corner of Orleans county, fifty miles from Montpelier, was granted March 13, 1780, and was originally called Carthage. About one third of the town was chartered to Governor Thomas Chittenden, November 7, 1792, and the remainder to John Jay and John Cozine, of New York, December 28th the same year, when it received its present name. Previous to the last war with Great Britain, five or six families had settled in this township; but during the war they nearly all left the settlement. A few families have since ventured to take up their abode in Jay, and the settlement has made moderate improvement. It was organized March 29, 1828, and contains 23,040 acres. The eastern part is handsome, level land, the soil of which is good; and the western part is almost wholly mountainous. A number of small streams rise among the mountains, and, running easterly, unite before they leave the town, affording several very good mill privileges. Jay peak, one of the highest of the western range of the Green Mountains, having an altitude of 4,018 feet, is situated partly in the southwest corner of the town, and partly in Montgomery, Westfield, and Richford. Jay has no church edifice, but has six school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, two saw-mills, two planing machines, one starch factory, and two blacksmith's shops. Population, 371; valuation, \$61,790.

**JERICHO** is centrally situated in Chittenden county, twenty-six miles northwest from Montpelier. It was chartered to Governor Thomas Chittenden, Edward Burling, and others, June 8, 1763. The efforts at

settlement were made in 1774 by Messrs. Messenger, Rood, and Brown with their families, who came from the western part of Massachusetts. During the Revolutionary war, however, the settlement was mostly abandoned; and as several incidents relative to the abandonment may be of interest to the general reader, they are here inserted. Mr. Brown settled on the flats near Underhill, on what is now called Brown's river, where he and his family remained unmolested during the early part of that memorable struggle. They had succeeded in making such improvements on the land as to be able to raise most of the necessaries of life; when, in the autumn of 1780, the family were surprised and made prisoners by a party of Indians. At the time, a young man by the name of Olds was in the house, and made his escape to the block-house on the Winooski river, in the west part of the town. The Indians, after securing their prisoners, killed the cattle, sheep, and hogs belonging to Mr. Brown, set the house on fire, and started for Montreal. The prisoners suffered much on their journey through the woods from fatigue and hunger, the most of their food being raw bear's meat. On their arrival at St. Johns they were sold to British officers at \$8 per head, and by them retained as prisoners nearly three years, during which time they were compelled to labor for their masters, and allowed but miserable fare. On their return they were enabled to keep a part of their land in Jericho, and by industry and perseverance accumulated a handsome property. Two sons of Mr. Brown settled, lived, and died on the same land where their father fixed his abode, and their families were among the most respectable. Mr. Messenger settled on the Winooski river, and remained there until June, 1776, when General Ira Allen advised him to leave as the place was unsafe. Mr. Messenger, with his family and a small share of their effects, proceeded down the river in a canoe belonging to General Allen, to what is called Hubbell's Falls, in Essex, where they unloaded. Mr. Messenger went over the falls in the canoe without injury, except breaking in the bow of the canoe. He changed ends, reloaded, and proceeded to what has since been called the Lawrence farm, where they remained for the night. Having arrived at Colchester, they carried their load around the falls at that place, let the boat drift over, and arrived safely at Lake Champlain. From thence they were transported, with others, in an open boat to Skenesboro' (now Whitehall), and from thence to Bennington, where they arrived at the time of the battle at that place. On the return of peace, Mr. Messenger with his family settled again on his old place, where he lived to an advanced age, an industrious and respectable farmer.

Jericho was organized March 22, 1786. It originally contained 27,110 acres, but a part of it was taken October 27, 1794, to form Richmond,

and its present area is about thirty-six square miles. The soil is various; but it is good for farming, and well adapted to raising most kinds of grain and grass. Winooski, Brown's, and Little rivers, and Mill brook, supply abundance of water. On all these streams are fine alluvial flats, and the mill privileges are good; but the best are on Brown's river, near the west village. Jericho contains two villages—Jericho Corner and Jericho Centre, each of which has a post-office; five meeting-houses—one Congregational, one belonging to Congregationalists and Baptists, one each of the Universalists, Methodists, and Episcopalians; and twelve school districts: also, two grist and four saw mills, one carding-machine, one starch factory, four stores, and two taverns. The Vermont Central Railroad passes along its southerly side. Population, 1,837; valuation, \$550,354.

JOHNSON, in the central part of Lamoille county, twenty-eight miles from Montpelier, was granted February 27, 1782, and chartered to William S. Johnson and sixty-three others, January 2, 1792. Samuel Eaton, from New Hampshire, whose name is recorded among the heroes of our Revolution, commenced the settlement in 1784. During the French war, before the reduction of Canada by the British, Mr. Eaton passed through this part of the country and down Lamoille river to Lake Champlain on a scout. At the commencement of the Revolution he enlisted in the American army under Colonel Beedle, and frequently passed through this township while scouting between Connecticut river and Lake Champlain. Several times, during these enterprises, he encamped on the same flat which he afterwards occupied as a farm. Like many of the settlers of this state, Mr. Eaton encountered many difficulties. In indigent circumstances, and with a numerous family, he packed his personal effects upon the well-tried back of an old horse, and set out in search of that favorite spot which he had selected in his more youthful days. The next year there was an accession to the settlement by the arrival of a family by the name of McConnel, and several others from New Hampshire. Soon after, the settlement presented evidences of life and activity, and has steadily increased.

Johnson was organized March 4, 1789, and contained, by the charter, 23,040 acres, which has been considerably enlarged by the annexation of a third part of Sterling, by act of November 14, 1855. The surface is uneven, being thrown into ridges. The alluvial flats are somewhat extensive; but back from the river the lands are, for the most part, rather stony. The Lamoille river runs through from east to west, and has a beautiful valley along its banks. At a point on this river, about a hundred rods below McConnel's falls, there is a natural stone bridge, upon

which persons can cross at low water. This bridge is some distance from the bed of the river, so that the water passes under it. A short distance below this the action of the water on the rock has excavated a basin, much resembling a large boiling pot. There are two villages — Johnson and Perkinsville; three church edifices — Congregational, Baptist, and Methodist; an academy, called the Lamoille County Grammar-School; eighteen school districts, and one post-office: also, the Gihon Woollen Factory, two grist-mills and a number of saw-mills, a starch factory, and manufactories of rakes, carriages, harnesses, stoves, and tin-ware. Population 1,381; valuation, \$363,722.

KIRBY, in the east part of Caledonia county, adjoining St. Johnsbury, and thirty-six miles from Montpelier, was granted October 20, 1786, and chartered to Roswell Hopkins, by the name of Hopkinsville, October 27, 1790. The settlement was commenced about the year 1799, by Phineas Page and Theophilus Grout, who were soon after joined by Josiah Joslin, Jude White, Jonathan Leach, Ebenezer Damon, Antipas Harrington, Asahel Burt, Jonathan Lewis, and others, who came principally from New Hampshire and Massachusetts. The town was organized August 29, 1807, and originally contained 11,264 acres; it has since been increased by the addition of 2,527 acres from Burke. The surface is uneven, and, in some places, ledgy or swampy. There are, however, some tracts of very good land. There are no streams of any note, but an abundance of water in springs and brooks. Kirby has a Methodist meeting-house, seven school districts, and three saw-mills. Population, 509; valuation, \$160,391.

LAMOILLE COUNTY, in the northerly part of the state, was incorporated October 26, 1835, being made up of Stow and Elmore, from Washington county; Mansfield (late a part of Stow) from Chittenden; Eden, Hydepark, Morristown, and Wolcott, from Orleans; Belvidere, Cambridge, Johnson, and Waterville, from Franklin; making ten towns. Sterling (now forming parts of Johnson, Morristown, and Stow) made another. The county contains about 420 square miles. The Lamoille and its branches course through the whole county, along which are some fine tracts of interval; and some of the tributaries of the Winooski rise in the southerly part. Hydepark is the shire town. The supreme court sits in August, and the county court in May and December. Population, 10,872; valuation, \$2,825,739.

LANDGROVE, in the northeast corner of Bennington county, seventy miles from Montpelier, was granted on the 6th and chartered on the 8th



of November, 1780, to William Utley, from Ashford, Conn., and twenty-one others, and the settlement was commenced by Utley, with his family, consisting of a wife and six children, in June, 1769. Mr. Utley had the preceding year purchased forty rights of land in Peru, which was represented to him as lying west of Andover, and adjoining that township. From Chester, where about twenty families had settled, he cut his road before him fourteen miles into the wilderness, till he arrived at a branch of West river, where he commenced his settlement. Finding that Peru did not join Andover, and that the lands on which he had settled were ungranted, he petitioned the legislature, and obtained a charter as above stated.

The town was organized March 25, 1800, and contains 4,646 acres. It is watered by several of the head branches of West river. The villages are Landgrove and Clarksville. There is a small society of Methodists, and a few persons of other denominations. There are three school districts, three schools, and one post-office. Population, 387; valuation, \$171,800.

LEICESTER, in the south part of Addison county, thirty-six miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, October 20, 1761, to Aaron Brown and sixty-six others; and the settlement was commenced in 1773, by Jeremiah Parker, from Massachusetts. Little progress was made, however, till after the Revolution. The town was organized in 1786. Rev. Stephen Olin, who was born here in 1797, graduated at Middlebury in 1820; was a teacher at the South; became a Methodist clergyman and preached some years; was professor in Franklin College, Ga.; president of Randolph-Macon College, Va., and of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.; published "Travels in the East," in two volumes; and numerous smaller works, which are embraced in four volumes, 12mo. He died August 16, 1851. The principal elevation is a branch of the Green Mountains running through the eastern part, called Bald Hill. The soil is a rich, sandy loam, interspersed with some flats of clay; but, in approaching the mountain towards the east, the soil becomes harder and less productive. Along the river are valuable tracts of interval. The town is watered principally by Otter creek and Leicester river, the latter of which runs across the northwest corner and falls into Otter creek. Lake Dunmore lies partly in this township and partly in Salisbury. There are two ponds, called Little and Mud. The town has one meeting-house—Union; six school districts, one post-office; and two lime manufactories. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through the town. Population, 596; valuation, \$216,233.

LEMINGTON is in the northeasterly part of Essex county, and sixty-four miles from Montpelier. It was chartered June 29, 1762, to Samuel Averill and sixty-four others. The settlement was commenced, as nearly as can be ascertained, in 1789, by Mills De Forest, Colonel Ward Bailey, Lewis Smariage, William Simes, James Mosey, Hale Whiting, Isaac Morgan, and John Kibbey. About 1793 or 1794, Henry Blodgett, Josiah Abbott, Thaddeus Rogers, Andrew McAllister, John Hugs, Howard Blodgett, and some others arrived. The settlements are mostly confined to the margin of Connecticut river, which separates this place from Colebrook, N. H. The town was organized in March, 1796. There are three large brooks running through Lemington, which are tributaries of the Connecticut, on one of which is a cascade of fifty feet. The most northerly of these streams is called Willard's brook. The Monadnock mountain of Vermont lies in the northeast corner. There are four school districts, and one post-office. Lumber is manufactured to a limited extent. Population, 187; valuation, \$54,850.

LINCOLN, in the northeasterly part of Addison county, twenty-one miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, and chartered November 9, 1780, to Benjamin Simonds and sixty-three others. The settlement was commenced about the year 1790, — the first settlers belonging mostly to the denomination called Friends. The town was organized March 13, 1798, and contained originally 23,040 acres; but a part was set off to Warren, November 12, 1824, while it received by annexation a part of Bristol, November 18 of that year, and a part of Avery's Gore, November 12, 1847. The surface is rocky and uneven. The western part is watered by New Haven river, which is formed here: several small branches of Mad river rise in the eastern part. The principal exports are iron, lumber, wool, butter, cheese, sheep, cattle, horses, and maple sugar. Lincoln has one village — Ackworth; one church edifice — Friends', the town-house also being occupied for religious meetings; twelve school districts; and one post-office: also, two forges for making bar and bloom iron, nine saw-mills, three clapboard mills, two grist-mills, one shingle mill, one sleigh and wagon shop, and four blacksmith's shops. Population, 1,057; valuation, \$167,518.

LONDONDERRY, in the northwest corner of Windham county, seventy-three miles from Montpelier, was chartered February 30, 1770, by New York, under the name of Kent; and, in 1778, the lands were confiscated on account of James Rogers, the principal proprietor, becoming a tory. It was regranted by the government of Vermont, March 16, 1780, and chartered to Edward Aiken, April 20 of the same year. In the years

1795 and 1797, James Rogers, Jr., petitioned the legislature, and obtained all the confiscated land which remained unsold. The settlement was commenced about the year 1774 by James Rogers, Samuel Thompson, and James Patterson, from Londonderry, N. H. Persons by the name of Glazier, Hellick, Eddy, Montgomery, Allyn, Aiken, and Miller, came soon after; and, in 1798, Dr. John Wakefield, who was a prominent citizen, and carried on a successful practice for twenty years.

The town is supposed to have been organized as early as 1780, and originally contained 28,459 acres; but it was divided October 22, 1795, and the east part was called Windham, a part of which, however, was re-annexed to Londonderry, October 21, 1797, leaving its present area about 20,000 acres. The surface is mountainous, although along the banks of West river are some very productive farms. A considerable portion of the land, though fit for pasturage, is too rough for tillage. There are two ponds, called the Great and the Little, which, on the opening of the spring, are much resorted to for the purpose of fishing. There are two villages, North Londonderry and South Londonderry, each having a post-office; three church edifices—Baptist, Methodist, and Union, the latter occupied by Methodists and Congregationalists; two academies—the Londonderry and West River; and thirteen school districts: also, two grist-mills, two saw-mills, a large establishment for making chair stuff, and another for chair stuff and washboards; and a sash, door, and blind manufactory. Population 1,274; valuation, \$294,069.

LOWELL, in the western part of Orleans county, thirty-six miles from Montpelier, was granted March 5, 1787, and chartered to John Kelly, of New York, by the name of Kellyvale, June 6 and 7, 1791, in two charters, and the name was altered to Lowell, November 1, 1831. During the war of the Revolution, Colonel Hazen, attempting to open a road from Connecticut river to St. John's in Canada, proceeded with a part of his regiment as far as this township, and encamped for some days on the flat near the Missisco river. The road was made passable from Peacham to this place, and was cut, but not cleared, several miles further. The first permanent settlement was made by Major William Caldwell, in April, 1806. Abel and Asahel Curtis and John Harding were among the early settlers.

Lowell was organized March 31, 1812, and contained under the charters 39,000 acres, but its area was somewhat reduced November 15, 1852, by the annexation of the first tier of lots, "contiguous to and adjoining" Irasburgh, to that town. Although encompassed by mountains on all sides except the northeast, much of the land is easy of tillage, and generally productive. Water is furnished by Missisco river and its

tributaries. At the foot of a fall in this river is a natural bridge of about three feet wide, and the same distance from the surface of the water. A range of serpentine passes through this township in a northeasterly direction, forming, near the centre, a considerable precipice, and near the line between Lowell and Westfield, another bluff, called Serpentine hill. With this mineral are also found very fine asbestos and amianthus. There is a pleasant little village; a starch factory, one sash and blind factory, and one post-office. The only religious denomination is the Baptist. Population, 637; valuation, \$159,625.

LUDLOW, in the southwestern part of Windsor county, bordering westerly on the Green Mountains, is ninety miles from Montpelier. It was chartered by New Hampshire, September 16, 1761, to Jared Lee and sixty-five others; but nothing was done towards its settlement until 1784-5, when James Whitney moved here from Massachusetts, and settled about three miles from Black river, on what is called North Hill. Jesse Fletcher and Simeon Read came here together with their families one or two years after Whitney's arrival. Others soon followed, and, in a few years, a large part of the territory was taken up and improved by settlers. Although the people dwelt, for some time, quite remotely from each other, and many hardships had to be endured by them, for the want of roads and other conveniences of life, they toiled on, and, by industry and enterprise, gradually overcame the obstacles of nature, making for themselves good farms and comfortable homes.

Ludlow was organized March 31, 1792, at which time its area was quite extensive; but on the 31st of October, the same year, 11,739 acres were taken to help make up the town of Mount Holly, and its present area does not probably much exceed 19,000 acres. It is irregular in form, the greatest length being from north to south, and the average width about three and a half miles. It is situated near the highest elevation of this part of the Green Mountain chain, 985 feet above the sea-level, and is surrounded by spurs that branch out from the main range. The surface exhibits variety, abounding in ridges, slopes, deep ravines, and valleys. In the eastern part, there is a lofty range of serpentine, containing the varieties of asbestos, talc, and hornblende, being very hard, and beautifully variegated. This range of serpentine is thought by some to have been the eastern barrier of a considerable body of water, which covered the central part of Ludlow, and all that portion of Plymouth extending from the north line of Ludlow to the source of Black river. That such a collection of water once existed, and that it finally disappeared by the wearing away of the serpentine range, during a long series of years, would seem conclusive from traces of the action

of the water upon the rocks many feet above the present bed of the stream, and from the successive steppes or tiers of alluvial table-lands which, at different heights and constantly increasing distances from the present course of the river, now constitute the most fertile portions of the town. A short distance from Duttonsville, in Cavendish, three miles below the point where the stream crosses the serpentine range, is another of these rocky barriers, which once dammed up the waters of Black river. Here the water has worn its bed one hundred feet deep, through mica slate, for nearly a mile, leaving traces of its tremendous effort in the huge and disjointed masses of rock and the ragged overhanging cliffs, which present themselves upon both sides of its channel through the whole course.

In the south part of the village, there was formerly a curious elevation of earth, called the "Hogback," about eighty feet high and forty rods in length. On the summit, this elevation was just wide enough to admit of the passage of two persons, while, upon every side, it stood perfectly detached from the neighboring hills, surrounded by alluvial flats. But it fell in the course of the Rutland and Burlington Railroad, which runs nearly the whole length of it, and for which the ridge was depressed about twenty-five feet, and portions of its sides removed to fill up the flats, so that very little of the ancient form remains. From the westerly end of it, there is a bridge across Jewell's brook and the road leading to Andover, 288 feet long, and fifty-seven feet high above the road. The formation of this singular elevation can only be accounted for by supposing, that, at this point, the streams — one coming from the northwest in what is now the channel of Black river, and the other from the south in what is now the channel of Jewell's brook — commingled their waters in the lake, of which the site of the village appears to have been the bed, and formed an eddy, thus depositing the gravel and soil loosened from the surrounding hills by the fall and spring rains. The first religious society (Congregational) was organized in 1806 — meetings having been held from the first settlement to that time in log houses. The rough, old-fashioned building then erected gave place in 1839 to a new house. The Baptists organized a church in 1825, although, for many years previous, they had been supplied with preaching. This church occupied the Union meeting-house, which had been erected in 1819, and which, in 1846, was turned into an academy building. The Second Baptist church, which was organized in 1834, had its origin in the temperance reform. An edifice was completed in 1841, soon after which the First church became extinct, and the Second church took its name. The Universalist society was organized in 1835; and within a few years a Methodist society has been formed.

There are two ponds in this town; and upon both sides of Black river are several extensive bogs. The soil is fertile, and well adapted for grazing and cultivation. The Black River Academy is located here, and stands among the first of the academical institutions of the state. There are two villages — one in the east part, which is a place of some business; and the other and principal one in the central part, on both sides of Black river. There are in the latter village two woollen manufactories, a grist and a saw mill, and mechanics sufficient to supply the wants of this and adjoining towns. The town contains three church edifices, — Congregational, Universalist, and Baptist, all in the village; fifteen school districts, each provided with convenient school-houses; and one post-office. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through this place. Population, 1,619; valuation, \$501,378.

LUNENBURGH, Essex county, on the eastern margin of the state, forty-five miles from Montpelier, was granted and chartered July 5, 1763, by New Hampshire, to David Page, Jonathan Grout, and sixty-eight others. The first settlement was probably commenced about the year 1770. The settlement begun in the lower part of Guildhall, about the year 1764, was long thought to be in this town; and one of the farms lying in a bow of Connecticut river, which was first occupied, still bears the name of the "Lunenburg farm." The town was organized at a meeting of the major part of the inhabitants, September 11, 1781, and contains 23,040 acres.

Prominent among the early inhabitants were David Hopkinson, Reuben and Simon Howe, Samuel Howe, Jr., Eleazer Roosebrooks, and Ebenezer Rice. Some part of the land is extremely stony, particularly that lying in the southwesterly section, next to Concord, where the ground is almost wholly covered with detached rolling masses of gray granite. The earth, to a considerable depth, appears to be a diluvial formation, consisting of rounded masses of granite imbedded in clay and gravel. The northeastern part is less stony, and presents a valuable farming country, particularly the flats along the river, which are a deep alluvial deposit, and very productive. Connecticut river waters the southeastern part, and near the south corner commence the Fifteen Mile Falls, the head of which is 822 feet above the sea. Its other waters are Neal's pond, Neal's branch, and Catbow branch. The town has one village, which, in July, 1849, was visited by fire, resulting in the destruction of the town hall, Congregational church, public-house, a dwelling-house, with the outbuildings, and several barns, making about twenty buildings. The two first-mentioned structures have been rebuilt. There are three church edifices — Congregational, Baptist, and

Methodist; nine school districts, which are furnished with school-houses; a high school, and one post-office: also, one starch factory, one sleigh factory, and several saw-mills and grist-mills. Population, 1,123; valuation, \$250,000.

LYNDON, in the eastern part of Caledonia county, thirty-four miles from Montpelier, was granted November 2, and chartered November 20, 1780, to Jonathan Arnold and fifty-one others. The settlement was commenced by Daniel Cahoon, Jr., in April, 1788, who continued here with several workmen till the ensuing fall, when he returned to Windham, N. H., his former place of residence, to pass the winter. In March, 1791, there were six or seven families here, and several young men without families had commenced operations. Of these, Nathan Hines, James Spooner, and Daniel Reniff were among the first town officers. General Isaac Fletcher, who had been in the state legislature, and in congress from 1837 to 1841, died here October 19, 1842.

Lyndon was organized on the 4th of July, 1791, and contains 23,040 acres. It was surveyed before any of the towns around it, and was laid out exactly square; hence its regularity, and the irregularity of those adjacent. Its soil is a rich loam, free from stone, easy to cultivate, and very productive. Agaric mineral is found, — forming the bottom of two ponds several acres in extent, — and has been employed for all the purposes for which Spanish white is used, and also for whitewashing. Passumpsic river receives here the following tributaries, North branch, Miller's river, South branch, and Hawkins's brook, all of which are sufficiently large for mills. At the Great falls in the Passumpsic, near the south part of the town, the water descends about sixty-five feet in the distance of thirty rods; and at the Little falls, one mile above, the water descends eighteen feet, affording excellent situations for mills and water machinery. There are two villages — Lyndon and Lyndon Centre; four church edifices — Methodist, Baptist, Universalist, and Congregational; an academy, fifteen school districts, one bank, and two post-offices — one at each village: also, places for the manufacture of wagons, harnesses, tin-ware, leather, sashes and doors, and of starch. Population, 1,752; valuation, \$654,876.

MAIDSTONE, in the eastern part of Essex county, on Connecticut river, fifty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire to Agur Judson and sixty-four others, October 12, 1761, and contains 14,472 acres. The settlement was commenced in 1772 by Arthur and Thomas Wooster. John, Benjamin, and Deliverance Sawyer, John Sawyer, Jr., Messrs. Arnie and Merrells, Enoch Hall, Benjamin Whit-

comb, Thomas French, and Jeremy Merrells settled here about the same time. The town was organized March 29, 1788, James Lucas, Haines French, David Gaskill, and Jacob Schaff being its first officers. It is watered by Paul's stream, which runs through the north part, and by Maidstone lake, which is three miles long and half a mile wide, situated in the western part, and discharging its waters into Paul's stream. The principal occupation is farming, and there is some trade in lumber. The town is without any minister, lawyer, doctor, church edifice, public institution, or village; but has three saw-mills, five school districts, and a post-office. The population, which has receded thirty-four from the census of 1840, is one more than in 1830 — 237; valuation, \$78,020.

MANCHESTER, in the northern part of Bennington county, is a half shire town, and is eighty miles from Montpelier. It was chartered by New Hampshire to Ephraim Cowen and sixty-three others, August 11, 1761. The settlement was commenced in 1763 by Samuel Rose and others, from Dutchess county, N. Y.; and in 1766 the town was organized. During the controversy with New York, the inhabitants took a prominent part; and at the commencement of the Revolution, it was a rallying point for the Vermont and New Hampshire militia. The regiment under the command of Colonel Seth Warner was marshalled here for the service, under General Stark. The following singular incident occurred here. A man by the name of Colvin disappeared very suddenly, and, as it was known that an old feud had existed between him and the brothers Stephen and Jesse Bourn, they were suspected of the crime of murder; a short time after which, the remains of a man were found in a field deposited in a hollow stump, which was identified by the clothing as the missing Colvin. The Bourns were arrested, and, upon being put upon trial, confessed the crime, and narrated the circumstances, upon which they were sentenced to be hung. But a short time previous to the day set for their execution, the governor received a letter from an individual living in New Jersey, stating that a person apparently insane came into the town in which the writer lived a short time previous, and said his name was Colvin, and he hailed from Manchester, Vermont. Whereupon a committee who were personally acquainted with Colvin were sent to New Jersey, who found him to be the veritable Colvin,—brought him back to Manchester, where he was at once recognized by all who had ever known him. The Bourns were at once discharged, but they ever after persisted in declaring that they had murdered Colvin, but how he had come to life again they could not



understand. The mystery concerning the human bones found in the hollow stump has never been cleared up.

One of the most distinguished men of Vermont, Hon. Richard Skinner, who was born at Litchfield, Conn., in 1778, removed to this town in 1800. He was a member of congress from 1813 to 1815; a judge of the supreme court in 1816; chief justice from 1817 to 1820; governor of the state from 1820 to 1822; reappointed chief justice in 1824; resigned in 1829; and died May 23, 1834.

The habitable parts of this township lie between the Green Mountains on the east, and the Equinox mountain on the west. The latter is the highest summit in this section of the state, being 2,915 feet above the site of the court-house in Manchester south village, and 3,706 feet above tide water. Through the east part of Manchester runs a range of granular quartz; and contiguous and parallel to this on the west is a range of transition granular limestone. Here also are inexhaustible quarries of beautiful white marble, large quantities of which are annually exported. The diluvial beds of sand are of great value in the sawing and manufacture of marble. The principal stream is the Battenkill, which rises in Dorset, and runs through this town in a southwesterly direction. It receives here, as tributaries, Lye, Bourn, Glebe, and Mill brooks, which afford a great number of mill privileges.

There are two pleasant villages, known as Manchester, and Factory Point, or the North village. The former is pleasantly situated on elevated ground, and contains the Battenkill Bank with a capital of \$50,000, a jail, a court-house, the Burr Seminary, pleasantly located in the midst of beautiful scenery, and several stores and mechanic shops. The north village is the seat of a great variety of manufactures, the principal of which is that of marble. It has also a woollen factory, and tannery. There are three church edifices — the Congregational at Manchester, and Baptist and Episcopal at Factory Point; fifteen school districts; and a post-office at each village. Population, 1,782; valuation, \$590,029.

MANSFIELD, in the southwest part of Lamoille county, twenty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 8, 1763, to Jeremiah Travise and sixty-four others, and originally embraced 23,040 acres. The settlement was commenced a short time previous to 1800, at which date it had twelve inhabitants. The west part of the original town has no land fit for cultivation, but in place thereof supports the dignity of three of the loftiest peaks of the Green Mountains — the Chin, 4,348 feet above the sea, being the highest of the range: the Nose

has an altitude of 4,044 feet, the South Peak of 3,882 feet. As the Chin appears to rise above the Nose, it may be inferred that "Old Mansfield" is recumbent, asleep. That part of the town was set off to Underhill, November 15, 1839. The present town was annexed to Stow, November 11, 1848, but the act was repealed December 6, 1853. This part has some excellent land, which is watered by two considerable branches of Waterbury river. The population in 1840 was 223, at the time of the last census it being enumerated with that of Stow.

MARLBOROUGH, in the southerly part of Windham county, twenty-eight miles from Bellows Falls, and twenty-four from Bennington, was chartered by New Hampshire, April 29, 1751, to Timothy Dwight and sixty-four others, of Northampton, Mass., and its vicinity, but the charter was forfeited in consequence of a non-compliance with its requisitions. The proprietors urged as a reason for their neglect the intervention of the Indian and French war, and succeeded in getting their charter renewed September 21, 1761, and again April 17, 1764, in which the town was called New Marlborough, but it gradually acquired the present name without legislative authority. The settlement was commenced as early as the spring of 1763 by Abel Stockwell, from West Springfield, Mass., and Thomas Whitmore, from Middletown, Conn. Whitmore came in by the way of Halifax, and settled in the south part of the town; while Stockwell came in by the way of Brattleboro', and settled in the eastern part. These families passed nearly a year, and endured many hardships, without having any knowledge of each other, each considering his own the only family in town. Whitmore brought his provisions from Deerfield, Mass., on his back, a distance of from twenty to thirty miles. Mrs. Whitmore spent most of the winter of 1767 alone, her husband being absent in the pursuit of his calling as a tinker. During the year 1780, the inhabitants in this vicinity were in continual apprehension of a hostile visit from the Indians and Tories, and meetings were held to concert measures for the common safety; whereupon it was agreed that every able-bodied man should hold himself in constant readiness to defend the settlements. On the eve of the last day of October in the same year, after a clear and pleasant day, a violent snow-storm commenced, and Mr. Stockwell received intelligence from Colonel Sargeant of Brattleboro', calling upon the inhabitants to defend themselves against the Indians and Tories, who had reached Newfane. This, however, proved to be a false alarm.<sup>1</sup> From 1764 to 1770, the settlement was considerably augmented by

<sup>1</sup> See article on Athens, ante, pp. 736-7.

emigrants from Massachusetts and Connecticut, among whom were Charles Phelps, Colonel William Williams, who distinguished himself in the battle of Bennington, Captain Nathaniel Whitney, and Samuel and Jonas Whitney. Bears, deer, moose, wolves, and other wild animals, abounded about this time, and Captain Whitney particularly distinguished himself as a hunter. It is said (and it makes a very good bear story) that he killed more than a hundred each of bears and deer; also, one moose and fourteen wolves.

Marlborough was organized about May 8, 1775, and is six miles square. The surface is mountainous; but the soil is rich and deep, and produces good crops. Centre mountain is a considerable elevation, and derives its name from its central situation. The town is watered by the west branch of West river, Whetstone brook, and Green river, which rise here and afford several mill privileges. There are two ponds, Allen's and South, each of which is about one mile and a half long by three quarters of a mile wide. Marlborough has one village, called the Centre; two church edifices—Congregational and Methodist; eleven school districts, and two post-offices—Marlborough and Marlborough Centre. The inhabitants are engaged almost exclusively in agricultural pursuits. Population, 896; valuation, \$313,717.

MARSHFIELD, in the eastern part of Washington county, adjoining East Montpelier, was granted to the Stockbridge tribe of Indians, October 16, 1782, and chartered to them, June 22, 1790. It was purchased of the Indians by Isaac Marsh, of Stockbridge, Mass., and from him it derives its name. He paid the Indians for the grant £140 lawful money, and the land was conveyed to him, July 29, 1789, the deed having been signed by eighteen Indians, who were then residents of New Stockbridge, Montgomery county, N. Y. The improvements were commenced in the spring of 1790, by Martin and Calvin Pitkin, from East Hartford, Conn., who left the town in the fall, and returned again the succeeding spring accompanied by Gideon Spencer. Thus, till 1794, they continued to spend the summer here, and remove in the winter. In the winter of 1794, Caleb Pitkin, Gideon Spencer, and Aaron Elmore brought in their families while the snow was more than four feet deep. In the summer following, they were joined by Ebenezer Dodge and family; and, March 1, 1795, Joshua, Stephen, and Nathaniel Pitkin, and Solomon Gilman, moved in.

Marshfield was organized March 10, 1800, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is very uneven; the soil west of the river is good; that on the east is broken, wet, and stony. The town is watered principally by Winooski river, in which, at this place, the Great falls have their head,

1,074 feet above the sea, and which are also said to descend five hundred feet in the distance of thirty rods. In the northeast part is a good sized natural pond. Marshfield has a small village in the north part, which is the seat of a moderate amount of business; one meeting-house — Union; eleven school districts, and one post-office: also, four saw-mills, a tannery, a starch factory, a carriage factory; and a variety of mechanic shops. Something is done in planing and coopering. Population, 1,102; valuation, \$294,923.

MENDON, in the eastern part of Rutland county, forty-seven miles from Montpelier, was chartered to Joseph Bowker and thirty-three others, February 23, 1781, by the name of Medway. Parker's gore was annexed to it, and the name was changed into that of Parkerstown, November 7, 1804, which name was altered November 6, 1827, to the one it now bears. It was organized March 11, 1806. It lies mostly on the Green Mountains, and much of it is high, cold land, incapable of settlement. There are, however, some good farms along the western border, and good grazing land in other parts. There are eight school districts, and one post-office: also, a pill-box factory, a match factory, and nine saw-mills. Population, 504; valuation, \$169,931.

MIDDLEBURY, about the centre of Addison county, is the shire town, and is thirty-one miles in a right line from Montpelier. It was chartered by New Hampshire, November 2, 1761, to John Evarts and sixty-two others; and the first clearing was made by Colonel John Chipman in 1766, on the north bank of Middlebury river, where the west and centre roads from Salisbury now unite. At this time there was no dwelling-house in the state on the west side of the mountains, north of Manchester, for a distance of sixty miles. The prospects were so discouraging that Mr. Chipman soon returned to Connecticut, and did not visit the township during the seven succeeding years. In 1773, however, Colonel Chipman and the Hon. Gamaliel Painter from Salisbury, Conn., determined to risk their all in effecting a settlement, came into the town in May of this year with their families, and erected a small log hut. Previous to their arrival, Benjamin Smalley had made a clearing, and built a log house, which was the first one in Middlebury. During the year 1773 the number of families was increased to six or seven, and four more joined the settlement the succeeding year, one of which settled on the west side of the creek, then within Cornwall. Prior to the breaking out of the Revolutionary war, there were thirteen families within the charter limits of Middlebury, and eight others in that part of Cornwall which was subsequently annexed to Middlebury.

In June, 1776, all these, with the exception of Daniel Foot and Benjamin Smalley, left the place; and they, after being despoiled by the Indians, left in September, but returned the following winter, and remained till the spring of 1778. The Indians frequently visited Middlebury in the absence of the settlers, and destroyed or carried off all the movable property which fell in their way.<sup>1</sup> In 1783, settlers again came in, among whom were Smalley, Thayer, and Jonathan Chipman. The early settlers were mostly from Connecticut.

Middlebury was organized March 29, 1786, and was constituted a shire town in 1791. It contains about twenty-four thousand acres, the



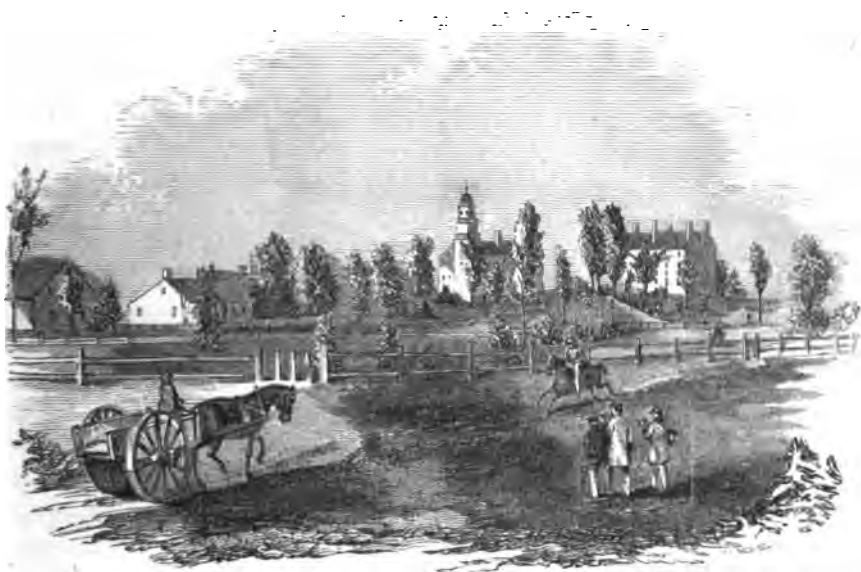
Middlebury.

surface of which is very level, excepting a strip along the east side, which extends on to the Green Mountains. Separate from the Green Mountains, Mount Nebo or Chipman's hill is the most considerable elevation, being four hundred and thirty-nine feet above the level of Otter creek below the falls. A large proportion of the land is fertile, and produces good crops of grain and grass. Limestone, suitable for the manufacture of lime, is found in all parts of the town; and marble exists in large quantities, the manufacture of which has been carried on

<sup>1</sup> A large number of Indian relics, such as arrows, hammers, etc., have been exhumed on the west bank of Middlebury river.

to the extent of \$8,000 annually. In 1809, a company was incorporated for the more successful prosecution of this business, called the "Middlebury Marble Manufacturing Company." A bed of the sulphuret of iron has been discovered here, and it is thought to exist in large quantities. The only streams of consequence are Otter creek, which runs through the west part, and Middlebury river, which runs through the south part into Otter creek.

Middlebury village is situated on both sides of Otter creek at Middlebury falls, and is intersected by the Rutland and Burlington Railroad, which runs through a cut about twenty feet deep in the centre of the village, crossed by two bridges near the park, about twenty rods south



Middlebury College.

of which is the depot. In 1793, all the buildings in this village amounted to sixty-two, the most of which were built of logs. The streets are somewhat irregular; but the dwellings and other buildings are mostly good, and the place presents a very fair appearance. Middlebury College is located in this village. This college had its foundation in a county grammar-school established here in 1797; and as little had been done towards endowing the University of Vermont, the project of a college here met with much favor, and an act of incorporation was obtained, dated November 1, 1800, with the title of "President and Fellows of Middlebury College." The institution was immediately organized, and seven students were admitted. The first class graduated

in 1802—one student; in 1808, the class numbered twenty-three. Among the long list of benefactors of the college occur the names of Samuel Miller, Arad Hunt, Gamaliel Painter, Joseph Burr, and Isaac Warren. There have been four presidents: Rev. Jeremiah Atwater, from 1800 to 1809; Rev. Henry Davis, from 1810 to 1817; Rev. Joshua Bates, from 1818 to 1839; and Rev. Benjamin Labaree, since 1840. The number of alumni has reached 960, of whom 425 have been clergymen. The largest class graduated in 1838, with forty-three students. The library contains 11,500 volumes. The college buildings (a view of which is given on the preceding page) consist of three spacious edifices, the oldest, which is of wood, having been erected in 1798. Two of these buildings—the east college and north college—are divided into rooms for the accommodation of students; the third, known as the chapel, contains a room for public worship, recitation and lecture rooms, and rooms for libraries and other purposes. The college is supported entirely upon tuition fees and the liberality of individuals, having received no endowment from the state.

This town was the residence of Hon. Samuel S. Phelps, who was born in Litchfield, Conn., May 13, 1703,—graduated at Yale College, and soon after came here and commenced the practice of law. He was drafted into the service in the last war with Great Britain, was appointed paymaster, and served in that capacity about eighteen months, after which he resumed the practice of law. He was a judge of the supreme court from 1831 to 1838, and United States senator from 1839 to 1851, in which year he died. Another resident was Hon. James Meacham,—born in Rutland, August 16, 1810. He was a literary man, serving successively as teacher in Castleton and St. Albans academies, tutor and professor of rhetoric and English literature in Middlebury College, as well as pastor of the Congregational church in New Haven. He was chosen representative to congress in 1849 to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Hon. George P. Marsh, to which place he was twice reëlected, and which he held at the time of his death, August 22, 1856. He was also one of the regents of the Smithsonian Institute. Ex-Governor William Slade, who was born in Cornwall, May 9, 1786, died here January 16, 1859. He came here and commenced the practice of law in 1810; he was editor of the *Columbian Patriot*, and printer and bookseller, 1814–16; secretary of state, 1815–23; held various county offices until 1831; was member of congress, 1831–43; reporter of the supreme court of Vermont, 1843–44; governor of the state, 1844–46; from 1846 until his death, he was corresponding secretary and general agent of the Board of National Popular Education, in which last office he made himself more illustrious than in all the others, and became the cham-

pion of popular education in our land. His publications are, a compilation of the laws of Vermont (1825); a very valuable work, entitled "Vermont State Papers" (1823); Vermont Reports, Vol. 15 (1844); and a large number of pamphlets on various subjects. Hon. Horatio Seymour, senator in congress from 1821 to 1833, resided here from 1799 until his death in 1857. Hon. Daniel Chipman resided here from 1794 until about 1830.

Besides the college buildings, the village has four church edifices — Congregational, Methodist, Episcopal, and Roman Catholic; a courthouse, and a bank, with a capital of \$75,000. At the falls of Otter creek are some very excellent mill privileges, on which are a cotton factory, a grist-mill, a woollen factory, and an iron foundery, each of which is doing considerable business. Among the manufactures of this place is that of cards for woollen factories, in which an extensive business is done. The Middlebury Register is published here. There is another thriving little village, called East Middlebury, situated on Middlebury river. The town has a number of elementary schools, an academy, a female seminary, and two post-offices — Middlebury and East Middlebury. Population, 3,517; valuation, \$776,500.

MIDDLESEX, Washington county, adjoining Montpelier upon the northwest, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 8, 1763, to Jacob Rezeau and sixty-four others. Thomas Mead was the first settler, as well as the first in the county. He began improvements in Middlesex in 1781 or 1782, and the next year moved his family from Westford, Mass. Jonah Harrington moved his family into town the year following, and Seth, Levi, and Jacob Putnam the year after. Middlesex was organized about the year 1788, and contained 23,040 acres by the charter, a portion of which, embracing several lots west of Hogback mountain, was annexed to Waterbury, October 30, 1850. The surface is uneven, but the soil is generally good, and there are some fine intervals along Winooski river, which waters the south part, and furnishes one of the best sites for mills in the county. The channel worn through the rocks in this river is somewhat of a curiosity. It is about thirty feet in depth, sixty in width, and eighty rods in length, the rocks appearing like a wall on each side. Over this chasm a bridge is thrown, which is perfectly secure from floods. On the banks of this river, at the falls, near the middle of the south line, is Middlesex village. The north branch of this river runs across the northeast corner of the town. There are also several brooks, on which saw-mills have been erected. There are three church edifices — one occupied by the Baptists, and each of the other two by the Methodists, and occasionally by the Universalists; thirteen school districts, and



one post-office : also, a linseed oil factory. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through Middlesex. Population, 1,865 ; valuation, \$368,100.

MIDDLETOWN, in the southwesterly part of Rutland county, sixty-six miles from Montpelier, was formed by taking 3,510 acres from the northwest of Tinmouth, 6,118 from the northeast of Wells, 2,388 from the southeast of Poultney, and 1,825 from the southwest of Ira, making 13,841 acres, and was called Middletown, in reference to its position among the parent towns. It was incorporated October 28, 1784. The settlement was commenced and mills erected a short time before the Revolution, by Thomas Morgan and some others. The settlers moved back to Connecticut during the war, but returned again as soon as it was over. The town was organized in 1786. The surface is considerably broken, the soil being a gravelly loam. Poultney river rises in Tinmouth, and runs westerly through Middletown. Near the centre is a small but pleasant village containing three meeting-houses — Congregational, Baptist, and Methodist ; one grist-mill, one saw-mill, a foundery, and other manufactories. There are nine school districts, and one post-office. Population, 875 ; valuation, \$260,000.

MILTON, in the northwestern corner of Chittenden county, bordering upon Lake Champlain, and forty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 8, 1763, to Samuel Rogers and sixty-four others ; and the settlement was commenced February 15, 1782, by Leonard and William Irish, Leonard Owen, Amos Mansfield, Absalom Taylor, and Thomas Dewey, who were soon after joined by Gideon Hoxie, Zebediah Dewey, Enoch and Elisha Ashley, and others. The first settlers suffered many privations and hardships.

The town was organized March 25, 1788, and contains 27,616 acres. The surface is gently diversified with hills and valleys, but contains no mountains of consequence, Cobble hill, in the south part, 827 feet, and Rattlesnake hill, in the north part, 912 feet high, being the most considerable. The soil is various, being in some parts sandy, in others clayey, and in others a warm loam. Water is furnished by the river Lamoille, and by several small streams, which afford numerous mill seats. The Great Falls on the river, seven miles from its mouth, and a little to the southwest of the centre of Milton, are somewhat of a curiosity, and are often visited by travellers. Iron ore is found in considerable quantities, and is thought to be of good quality. The lumbering business has heretofore engrossed much of the attention of the inhabitants ; but the pine timber being mostly exhausted, their chief attention is now given

to agriculture. There is a small, thriving village at Milton falls, which affords excellent sites for mills, and another pleasant little village, two miles west of the falls, called Checkerberry Green. There are three church edifices—two Congregational and one Methodist; fourteen school districts; and two post-offices—Milton and West Milton: also, four saw-mills, one grist-mill, one flour-mill, one woollen factory, one paper-mill, one tannery, one wheelwright shop, and five blacksmith's shops. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through Milton. Population, 2,451; valuation, \$637,563.

MONKTON, in the north part of Addison county, twenty-seven miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 24, 1762, to Abraham Dow and sixty-three others, and was settled in 1774, by John and Ebenezer Stearns, Barnabas Burnham, and John Bishop, who left during the war, but returned in 1784. The town was organized March 28, 1786, and contained at that time an area of 24,000 acres, which has been diminished by the annexation of a portion to Starksboro'. A mountain, called the Hogback, extends along the eastern boundary, and there are several other considerable elevations. Iron ore is found in large quantities, together with black oxide of manganese; and on the east side of a ridge of land running north and south is an immense bed of porcelain clay, which might be manufactured into the best China ware. In the northwest corner is a very extensive cave, with different apartments, one of the entrances to which much resembles a door-way, and is covered with an arch of solid rock, beautifully turned. At the outlet of this cave is a small stream of pure cold water, which comes from under the hill in which the cave is situated. The western part is watered by Little Otter creek, and the eastern part by Pond brook, which takes its rise from Bristol pond nearly on the line between Monkton and Bristol, and runs through Monkton into Lewis creek in Hinesburgh. Lewis creek also runs a short distance in the northeastern part. These streams afford but few mill privileges. Monkton pond lies in the north part, and is about a mile in length and half a mile wide. In the south part is another pond, curiously located on the highest part of Feltcher hill. There are four villages—the Borough, Barnumtown, Monkton Ridge, and East Monkton; three meeting-houses—Methodist, Baptist, and Friends'; a literary society, eight school districts, four parts of districts, and one post-office: also, the Kaolin Manufacturing Company, which prepares clay for bricks and porcelain, and also as a facing upon room-paper; three wheelwright's shops, and several mills. Population, 1,246; valuation, \$371,960.

MONTGOMERY, in the eastern part of Franklin county, forty-two miles from Montpelier, was granted March 13, 1780, and chartered October 8, 1789, to Stephen R. Bradley and fifty-eight others. Captain Joshua Clap,<sup>1</sup> a respectable Revolutionary officer, removed his family from Worcester county, Mass., into Montgomery, in March, 1793; and this was, for two years, the only family here. Hon. Samuel Barnard, Reuben Clap, and James Upham, all from Massachusetts, were among the earliest settlers. The town was organized August 12, 1802, and contains 23,040 acres. On Trout river is a beautiful tract of interval; but, back from the river, the land is mountainous and less suitable for cultivation. Trout river is formed by the union of south and east branch, about half a mile west of the centre of this town, receiving in its course a number of tributaries. The mill privileges, both on the river and its tributaries, are numerous and excellent. There are two villages—Montgomery and Montgomery Centre, with a post-office at each; four church edifices—Episcopal, Methodist, Congregational, and Second Advent; and eleven school districts: also, two grist-mills, ten saw-mills, two tub factories, one wheelwright's shop, and one sash and door factory. Population, 1,001; valuation, \$177,132.

MONTPELIER is the shire town of Washington county, and the seat of government of the state. It was granted October 21, 1780; chartered to Timothy Bigelow and fifty-eight others, August 14, 1781, and rechartered February 6, 1804. The first attempt at settlement was made in the spring of 1786, by Joel Frizzle, a hunter and trapper, who felled a few trees, planted a little corn among the logs after the Indian fashion, and erected a very small log cabin on the banks of Winooski river, in the southwest corner of the town. Having completed these improvements, he the same season moved his wife in from Canada. The first permanent settlement, however, was not made till May, 1787, when Colonel Jacob Davis and General Parley Davis, the well-known surveyor of a great part of this section of the state, with a hired man, one horse, cooking utensils, pork, flour, beans, and other necessities, arrived here from Charlton, Worcester county, Mass. This party, having crossed over Winooski river to the house of Seth Putnam, near Montpelier line, cut a road from thence to the hunter's camp, now occupied by the jail-house in Montpelier, when Colonel Davis and his

<sup>1</sup> Captain J. Clap was twin brother of Captain Caleb Clap, who settled in Greenfield, Mass. Both were officers of the same grade, and served through the war of the Revolution. The former died in 1811, and the latter in 1812. The resemblance between them is said to have been so perfect that they could be distinguished only by their dress. The name of the present town clerk is Joshua Clapp.

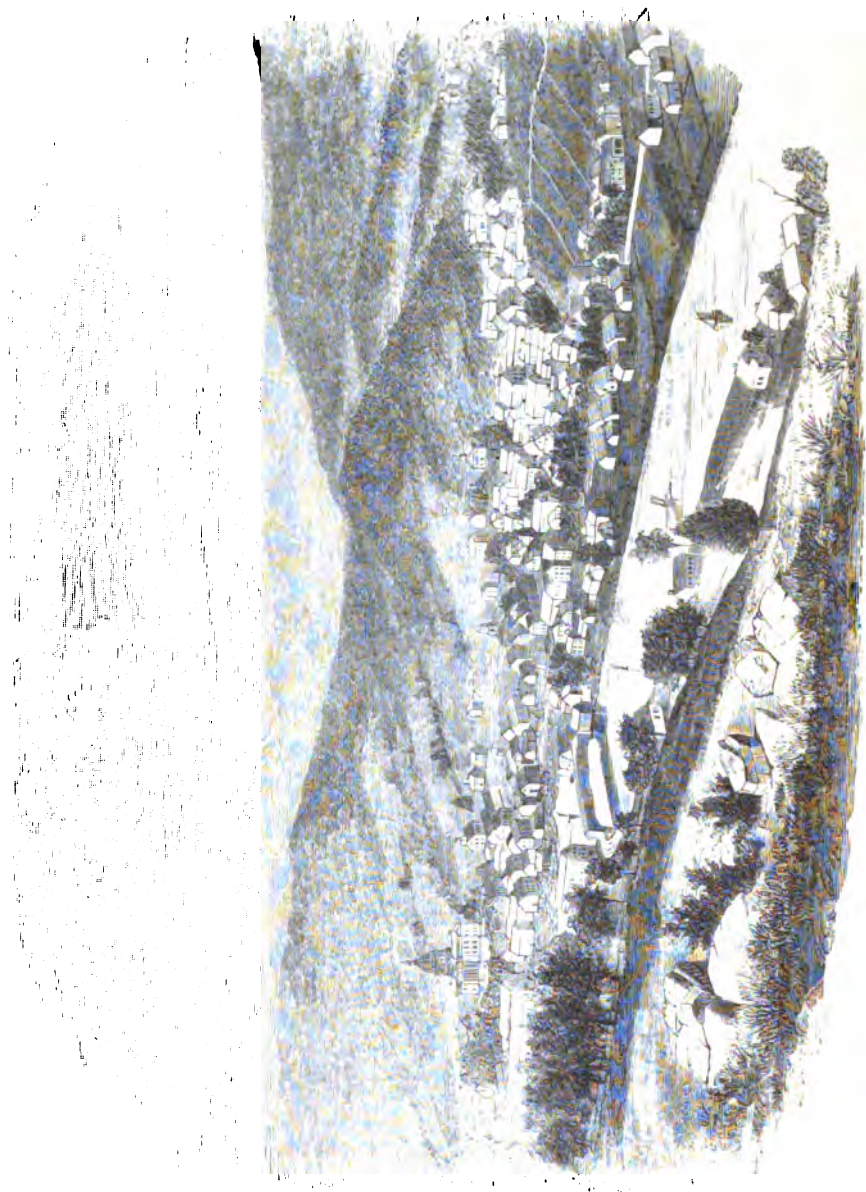
hired man commenced clearing up the meadow on the west side of the Little North branch, now known as State street. They soon erected a large log-house, into which Colonel Davis moved his family the following winter, leaving General Davis, who had brought his instruments with him, to complete the survey of the town. General Davis afterwards located himself here on a tract of land, containing about three hundred acres. The settlement from this date progressed rapidly, and, in 1791, the population numbered one hundred and seventeen persons. The first settlers were mostly hardy, enterprising, and intelligent young men, among whom, besides those already mentioned, were Jonathan Snow, James Taggard, John Templeton, Solomon Dodge, James Hawkins, David Wing, Jr., Ziba Woodworth, Nathaniel Davis, Nathaniel Peck, Caleb Bennett, Clark Stevens, and B. I. and J. B. Wheeler. Hon. Nicholas Baylies, a native of Uxbridge, Mass., graduated at Dartmouth in 1794, commenced the practice of law in Woodstock, and removed to this place. He was in 1831 and 1832 a judge of the supreme court, and died at Lyndon, August 17, 1847. Hon. Samuel Prentiss, also a resident of this town, was a judge of the supreme court from 1825 to 1829, and a senator in congress for two terms from 1831 to 1842. He died here January 15, 1857. Captain Samuel Upham, an early settler in this town, and a Revolutionary soldier, died here May 12, 1848, at the age of eighty-five. His son, Hon. William Upham, was born in Leicester, Mass., and removed hither at an early age — settled, and commenced the practice of law. He was chosen United States senator in 1842, reëlected in 1848, and served until within ten days of his death, which took place at Washington, January 14, 1853. General Ezekiel P. Walton, editor of the Vermont Watchman, resided here until his death in 1855. Hon. E. P. Walton, his son, and successor as editor and publisher of that journal, as also of the "Vermont Annual Register," is the present representative in congress from the first district of this state. Hon. Daniel P. Thompson, who has distinguished himself as a writer, and whose name is familiar even in transatlantic cities as the author of the "Green Mountain Boys," and "Locke Amsden," is also a citizen of Montpelier.

Montpelier was organized on the 29th of March, 1791, and contains 4,316 acres, having lost about five sixths of its territory, November 8, 1849, by the incorporation from it of East Montpelier. It was constituted the permanent seat of government of the state, November 8, 1805, and became the shire town of what was then the county of Jefferson, since Washington. The surface is uneven, but there is scarcely an acre of unimproved land. It is watered by the Winooski river and its tributaries.

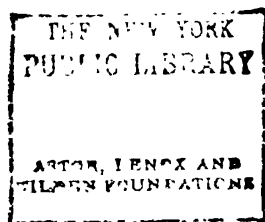
The village of Montpelier is a thriving, compactly built place, and is about ten miles northeasterly from the geographical centre of the state. It is located on the Winooski (the Indian word for onion), at its confluence with the North Branch, and contains about 2,500 inhabitants. The situation is low, but the streets and building-ground have been raised so much that it is now as dry as other places of the like soil. The whole site of the village bears unequivocal signs of having been the bed of a lake, the original surface of the water being indicated by the strata of earth and rocks on all the surrounding hills. Montpelier village stands among the most active and thriving business places in the interior of New England. Being the central point of six mail stages, located upon the Vermont Central Railroad, and commanding the principal part of the trade to an extent of more than twenty miles, — being the seat of government, the shire town of the county, having an academy, and the incidental establishments to which these naturally lead, there are few towns so isolated from navigable waters which exhibit greater prosperity. A substantial arch bridge of about one hundred feet span crosses Winooski river at the falls, and unites the village to a cluster of buildings on the Berlin side. In the early part of its history a well-selected circulating library was established, which may account, in part, for the intelligence and taste for reading which prevail generally among the inhabitants.

The site of the state-house, although somewhat lower than the surrounding country, is 573 feet above the sea level. The first state-house here, completed in 1838, was built of granite, at a cost of \$132,000, of which the citizens of Montpelier paid \$15,000. It was constructed in the form of a cross, its front being seventy-two feet wide, making with the wings 150 feet. The centre was one hundred feet deep, and the wings fifty. The top of the dome was one hundred feet high. This edifice was burnt in January, 1857. The plan of the new building, now in process of erection, is substantially the old one with some improvements. The wings and main building are each twelve and a half feet longer than those of the former edifice. The entire length of the front is 176 feet, consisting of seventy-two feet for the main portion and fifty-two feet for each of the wings, which last are fifty feet eight inches deep. The depth of the main building is 113 feet, and of the front portico eighteen feet, which latter is sixty-four feet high, from the ground to the top of the cornice. The dome rises about sixty feet above the ridge of the roof, making the entire height from the ground to the top of the dome 124 feet. This is surmounted with a female statue similar in design to the patron goddess of agriculture.

There are five church edifices — Episcopal, Methodist, Free Church,



Montpelier



Congregational, and Roman Catholic; five school districts; one post-office; the Washington County Grammar-School; the Montpelier Union District school; an insurance office; two banks, with an aggregate capital of \$200,000; and five newspapers — the Vermont Watchman, Vermont Register, Green Mountain Freeman, Repository, and Patriot: also, a large lumber manufactory, an iron foundery, flour-mills, and manufactories of sashes and blinds, carriages and sleighs, hats and caps, furniture, and silver plate. Population in 1850, 2,310, which has increased to about 3,500; valuation, \$1,066,797.

MORETOWN, near the centre of Washington county, eight miles southwest from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 7, 1763, to Josiah Forster and sixty-four others; and the settlement was commenced, about 1790, by Paul Knap, Reuben, Eliakim, and Ira Hawks, all from Massachusetts. The town was organized March 22, 1792, at which time Joseph and Ebenezer Haseltine, Seth Munson, and Daniel Parker were among the inhabitants. It has an area of 23,040 acres. Much of the surface is mountainous, and incapable of being settled. Mad river enters from Waitsfield, runs northeasterly, and falls into Winooski river. On this stream are several mill privileges. Moretown has one church edifice — Episcopal Methodist; fifteen school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, six saw-mills, one clapboard mill, and one wagon and sleigh manufactory. Population, 1,335; valuation, \$305,815.

MORGAN, in the eastern part of Orleans county, fifty-two miles from Montpelier, was chartered November 6, 1780, to Jedediah Calderkin and sixty-three others, by the name of Caldersburgh, which was altered to the name it now bears October 19, 1801, after setting off a part of it to Wenlock, and annexing to it Brownington and Whitelaw's gores. The settlement was commenced about the year 1800 by Nathan Wilcox. It was organized March 25, 1807, and contains 20,135 acres. The surface is undulating, and mostly susceptible of cultivation. A head branch of Clyde river, called Farrand's river, passes through the east part of Morgan, and Seymour's lake, which is about four miles long and nearly two wide, lies in the central part. The religious denominations are Congregationalists and Methodists, who occupy one meeting-house. There are six school districts, one post-office, and three saw-mills. Population, 486; valuation, \$116,713.

MORRISTOWN, nearly in the central part of Lamoille county, twenty miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered



to Moses Morse and associates, August 24, 1781. The settlement was commenced in the spring of 1790 by Jacob Walker, who came from Bennington, accompanied by his brother, who soon returned. Mr. Walker remained here during the summer, making his home at the house of John McDaniel, in Hydepark, to which place he returned every Saturday night, going out again on Monday, with provisions sufficient to last him through the week. In this way he labored through the summer, and in the fall returned to Bennington. In the spring of 1791, Mr. Walker brought his family here, and continued through the summer, returning again in the fall to his former place of residence. In the spring of 1792, Mr. Walker and family, accompanied by Mr. Olds and family, again came here, and immediately set to work to build a camp, in which they and two hired men lived two months, during which time Governor Butler, of Waterbury, paid them a visit. At the end of two months they progressed so far in the settlement as to have a house built, into which they all removed. In the fall, Mr. Walker removed to Fairfax, leaving Mr. Olds and family. Mrs. Olds was the first woman who remained here during the winter. In the summer of 1798, Captain Safford, from Windsor, Mass., built the first saw-mill, at the Great falls on the Lamoille river.

Morristown was organized in 1796, and contained 23,040 acres, and it has been somewhat increased by the annexation of a part of Sterling, which was cut up and partitioned to the adjoining towns, November 14, 1855. The surface is moderately uneven, and the soil of good quality and easy to cultivate. It is watered by the Lamoille river, along which are some fine tracts of interval, and on which are two excellent mill sites. There are several other streams on which mills are erected. In the southeast corner is a collection of water, known by the name of Joe's pond.

Morrisville is a pleasant, flourishing village, situated near the Great falls, furnishing one of the finest situations for manufacturing establishments which the state affords. The river at this place falls into a channel cut directly across the stream, twenty feet deep and thirty broad, which was denominated by the early settlers "the Pulpit," from the resemblance of the rocks at the north end to that structure. On the west side of this chasm the rocks rise perpendicularly to the height of thirty feet, and the beholder while standing on the edge of this precipice sees the whole body of the river plunged down at his feet into this boiling caldron, from which it escapes through a channel at the south end, and, immediately spreading itself out, encircles numerous islands, whose high, jagged points are covered with a thick growth of cedar and fir, together presenting a scene of grandeur and beauty seldom sur-

passed. There are three villages — Morristown, Morrisville, and Cady's Falls, the last of which is situated two miles below Morrisville, and bids fair to become a place of considerable business. At the centre of Morristown is a small village, pleasantly located, and wanting only the facilities of water power to make it the principal place of business. The public buildings are a town-house and two meeting-houses — the Congregational at Morrisville, and the Methodist at Morristown. There are twenty-five school districts, an academy, and a post-office at each village: also, three starch factories, one tannery, one carriage factory, five stores, and some saw-mills and grist-mills. Population, 1,441; valuation, \$465,702.

MOUNT HOLLY, in the southeasterly part of Rutland county, sixty miles from Montpelier, was made up from Jackson's gore, containing 10,669 acres, 3,388 acres from the east side of Wallingford, and 11,739 acres from the west side of Ludlow, making 25,796 acres;<sup>1</sup> and was incorporated October 31, 1792. The settlement was commenced in 1781, by Ichabod G., Stephen, and John Clark, Jonah, Amos, and Ebenezer Ives, from Connecticut; Jacob Wilcox, from Rhode Island; and Joseph Green, David Bent, Abraham Crowley, and Nathaniel Pingrey, from Massachusetts. The town was organized November 19, 1792. In soil, Mount Holly is similar to the mountain towns generally, being much better adapted to the production of grass than of grain. Ludlow mountain is a considerable elevation lying along the eastern line. Mill river, which rises in the south part of Mount Holly, and runs through the northeast corner of Wallingford and the southwest corner of Shrewsbury, and unites with Otter creek in Clarendon, is the only stream of consequence. Two springs upon one farm send their waters, the one to Lake Champlain and the other to the Connecticut. In the northeastern part is a considerable body of water, called Patch's pond. In making a cut through a ledge of rocks for the Rutland and Burlington Railroad, in 1848, some huge bones and teeth were found imbedded in vegetable muck in a cavity of the rocks, which were decided by Professor Agassiz of Cambridge to be those of an extinct species of elephant, and are believed to have been the only fossil remains found in New England which have been ascertained with certainty to belong to an elephant. There are four small villages — Mount Holly, Mechanicsville, Healdville, and Bowlville, the three first of which have post-offices; three church edifices — Baptist, Second Advent, and Union; and fifteen school districts: also, two grist-mills, twelve saw-mills, one tannery, four mills for

<sup>1</sup> The area given in connection with the grand list, in 1855, is 28,366 acres.

cutting out chair stuff, two butter-tub factories, and one rake factory. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad runs through the town from east to west. Population, 1,534; valuation, \$403,676.

MOUNT TABOR, in the southeast corner of Rutland county, thirty-six miles from Bennington and sixty-eight from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 28, 1761, to Jonathan Willard and sixty-one others, by the name of Harwich, which was subsequently changed to the present name. It was organized March 13, 1788. A part of Peru was annexed to it, October 25, 1805, which, however, excepting a small portion, was set off to Dorset, November 17, 1825. A small slice upon the northeast corner of Danby was annexed to this town, November 13, 1848; making its area 23,376 acres. A large portion of the town is on the summit of the Green Mountains, and incapable of cultivation. The town is watered by the Otter creek and its branches, which rise here. The nearest village is at the station of the Western Vermont Railroad in Danby, which town and Weston furnish the nearest post-office accommodations. The town has one church edifice — Union; and five school districts: also, one tannery, and six saw-mills, engaged chiefly in making shingles. Population, 308; valuation, \$90,000.

NEWARK, in the northeastern corner of Caledonia county, forty-four miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered August 15, 1781, to William Wall and sixty-four others. The settlement was commenced in 1797 or 1798 by James Ball; and the town was organized in 1801, and contains 23,040 acres. Improvements have been gradually made, though much of the land remains unredeemed from its wilderness condition. It is watered by a great number of small streams, which are here collected together and form the Passumpsic river. It is a farming town, the principal articles of export being grass-seed, grain, starch, lumber, butter, beef, and wool. Stock-raising is carried on to some extent. There is no church edifice, but meetings are held in school-houses by Methodists, Free-will Baptists, and Congregationalists. There are ten school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, seven saw-mills, and two starch factories. Population, 434; valuation, \$110,572.

NEWBURY, Orange county, lies in the eastern part of the state, twenty-seven miles from Montpelier, and was chartered by New Hampshire to General Jacob Bailey and seventy-four others, March 18, 1763. The settlement was begun in the spring of 1762, the first family in town

being that of Samuel Sleeper.<sup>1</sup> Among the first inhabitants may be mentioned Thomas Chamberlain and family, Richard Chamberlain and family, John Hazleton and family, General Jacob Bailey, Colonel Jacob Kent, Colonel Thomas Johnson, John Taplin, Noah and Ebenezer White, Frye Bailey, and James Abbott, who came mostly from the southeastern parts of New Hampshire, and from Newbury, Mass. The first meeting of proprietors of Newbury was held June 13, 1763, at Plaistow, N. H. In 1764, Rev. Peter Powers, of Hollis, N. H., came in as the minister of Haverhill and Newbury. He preached for a time at General Bailey's, and afterwards in a log meeting-house south of General Bailey's and north of the hill. The first settlers had peculiar hardships to endure, there being no inhabitants on Connecticut river at this time, north of No. 4 (now Charlestown, N. H.), or between this place and Concord. They were necessitated to carry their grain to Charlestown, a distance of sixty miles, to get it ground, conveying it down the river in canoes in the summer, and drawing it on the ice in the winter. The crank for the first saw-mill built in Newbury was drawn from Concord, N. H., a distance of eighty miles, on a hand-sled, those engaged in the undertaking suffering intensely from cold.

This was a favorite resort of the Indians, and they felt great repugnance at losing so rich a field for the pursuit of their favorite callings. The rivers abounded in salmon and the brooks in trout; and bears, deer, moose, fowl, and game of every description, were found in every part of the country. The land was rich, and easy of cultivation; so that almost every thing was favorable to their peculiar manner of living.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sleeper was a Quaker, and expected to be the preacher for that peculiar sect in Newbury. Mr. Powers, in his ministrations, was subjected to many interruptions from this Sleeper (who was wrongly named, for he was always *awake* to mischief), such as, "Thce lies, Friend Peter!" Though entreated by the best men of the settlement to abstain from these disorderly interruptions, he was inexorable; and to be quit of the nuisance, they incarcerated him in a cellar on Musquash Meadow. He was scarcely disposed of before another, one Benoni Wright, took his place, and was more bitter, boisterous, and frantic in his animadversions than his predecessor. He was, however, dealt with in a summary manner, having been taken to the meadow where Sleeper was imprisoned, and there tried and sentenced to ten lashes, which were well laid on. The same court also sent word to Sleeper that, if he interrupted the meetings again, he should receive thirty lashes. These two self-constituted martyrs left Newbury in 1766.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Grant Powers, in his History of the Coös Country, gives the following, from David Johnson, of Newbury: "On the high ground east of the mouth of Cow Meadow brook and south of the three large projecting rocks, were found many indications of an old and extensive Indian settlement. There were many domestic implements. Among the rest were a stone mortar and pestle. The pestle I have seen. Heads of arrows, large quantities of ashes, and the ground burnt over to a great extent, are some of the

General Bailey was very active in forwarding the settlement of this part of the country, and distinguished himself as a general officer in the Revolutionary war. He possessed great influence with his countrymen, and the Indians looked up to him as a father. During the Revolution, Newbury was garrisoned by one or more companies, and was, for many years after, the most important town in the state. Over these troops General Bailey acted as quartermaster-general, and so attentive was he to the Indians that he retained their friendship during the war. The British felt it so important to secure General Bailey, that they offered a heavy reward for his person, and many plans were concerted for his capture; but they never succeeded.<sup>1</sup> Besides General Bailey there were several persons in Newbury who had, by their devotion to their country, excited the enmity of the British and tories to a high degree. One was the Rev. Peter Powers, the first minister of the Congregational church, who had preached, and done every thing in his power to sustain the cause of the colonies, and had already sacrificed his oldest son, Peter, to the cause. Another was Colonel Thomas Johnson, whom the British considered a notorious rebel, as he had distinguished himself at the taking of Ticonderoga and the siege of Mount Independence, in the autumn of 1777. The British were very desirous of taking Colonel Johnson, but he eluded all their vigilance

marks of a long residence there. The burnt ground and ashes were still visible the last time it was ploughed. On the meadow, forty or fifty rods below, near the rocks in the river, was evidently a burying-ground. The remains of many of the sons of the forest are there deposited. Bones have frequently been turned up by the plough. That they were buried in the sitting posture peculiar to the Indians has been ascertained. When the first settlers came here, the remains of a fort were still visible on the Ox Bow, a dozen or twenty rods from the east end of Moses Johnson's lower garden, on the south side of the lane. The size of the fort was plain to be seen. Trees about as large as a man's thigh were growing in the circumference of the old fort. A profusion of white flint-stones and heads of arrows may yet be seen scattered over the ground. It is a tradition which I have frequently heard repeated, that, after the fight with Lovewell, the Indians said they should now be obliged to leave Coossuck (Coös).<sup>2</sup> It is said that there was an intimate connection between the Coös Indians and those of Maine and of St. Francis; between the first and the last of which the connection continued to the end.

<sup>1</sup> A bold and determined effort to take him was made on the 17th of June, 1782, while Colonel Thomas Johnson (alluded to hereafter) was at home on parole. A British force, commanded by Captain Prichard, consisting of eighteen men, encamped on the heights west of Ox Bow, and sent for Colonel Johnson to visit them, which it appears he was bound to do by the terms of his parole, and from them he learned of their design to capture General Bailey. Colonel Johnson was in a strait; he knew not what to do; but rather than they should capture Bailey he determined to hazard his own safety, and accordingly took a method to inform the General of his danger, which was entirely successful; for when the British attacked General Bailey's house he was safe on the Haverhill side.

till the spring of 1781, when they succeeded in capturing him at the house of Deacon Jonathan Elkins, in Peacham, where he had gone to fulfil a contract for erecting a grist-mill. He was taken to St. John's, and about six months after was set at liberty on his parole of honor,<sup>1</sup> from which he was not released till after the conclusion of peace, in 1783.

Newbury was probably organized about 1763, and contains 36,450 acres. Connecticut river waters the eastern border, and here along this stream are some of the most beautiful tracts of interval in Vermont. The other streams of most consequence are Wells river; Harriman's brook, which rises in a pond of the same name, passes through Newbury village, and joins Connecticut river; and Hall's brook, which originates in Hall's pond, runs through the south part, and falls into the Connecticut river in Bradford; — all of which are considerable mill streams. There is a mineral spring, which is a place of some resort for those afflicted with cutaneous diseases.

There are four villages — Newbury, South Newbury, West Newbury, and Wells River. The first — a very pleasant village — is situated near the bend of the Connecticut river. In this are the buildings of the Newbury Seminary and Female Collegiate Institute, which commenced its operations in the fall of 1834, and has rooms sufficiently extensive to accommodate one hundred students with board. It is under the immediate patronage and inspection of the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but its privileges are equally extended to all denominations. The seminary is in a very prosperous condition. Wells River village, at the mouth of Wells river, is well situated for trade, and has valuable water privileges. Just below this village is a bridge across the Connecticut, and there is another just below Newbury village, leading to "Haverhill corner." The legislature has held two sessions in Newbury; the first in 1787, and the other in 1801. There are five church edifices — two Congregational, one Methodist, and two Union; twenty-four school districts; three post-offices — Newbury, South Newbury, and Wells River; and one bank, with a capital of \$75,000: also, two grist-mills, one paper-mill, and a steam-mill for manufacturing mackerel kits. The Connecticut and Passump-

<sup>1</sup> Colonel Johnson, on account of the hold which the British had upon him by his parole of honor, was subjected to much suspicion. Many endeavored to make it appear that he betrayed the interests of his country to the British during his captivity, which report he was unable wholly to clear up. Since his death, however, letters from General Washington, Meshech Weare, and others, have been discovered, which entirely exonerate him from any such charge, and make it appear, that, though inactive in a sense, he was as good a patriot, in principle, as the Revolutionary era can furnish.

sic Rivers Railroad passes through Newbury. Population, 2,984; valuation, \$880,527.

NEWFANE, the shire town of Windham county, one hundred miles from Montpelier, was granted by New Hampshire, June 19, 1753, by the name of Fane, to Abner Sawyer and sixty-seven others, many of whom were from Shrewsbury, Mass. This charter was forfeited, the grantees being prevented, by the dangers arising from border warfare, from complying with its terms. A new charter was issued by New Hampshire, November 3, 1761, to Luke Brown, Benjamin Flagg, and sixty-three others, by the name of New Fane. A committee of these proprietors, July 10, 1765, addressed a memorial from Shrewsbury, Mass., to Lieutenant-Governor Cadwallader Colden, of New York,—in consequence of his proclamation claiming, in behalf of that province, all the land west of Connecticut river,—representing that they had expended considerable sums in making roads and other improvements in the township, and asking, as they doubted in regard to the validity of the New Hampshire title, a confirmatory charter, which, for economy, they desired might issue before the stamp act should become obligatory. This petition slumbered a long time, and when finally the governor's attention was drawn to it, instead of the grant in confirmation, he made a new charter, May 11, 1772, to "Walter Franklin and twenty other persons, principally residing in the city of New York." On the next day, Franklin and his associates conveyed their right to Luke Knowlton and John Taylor, of Worcester county, Mass. Under the last charter, the titles to lands here are derived. It appears, however, that Knowlton was, before this conveyance, a large holder of lands in Newfane, of which he had obtained possession by deed prior to 1767, and that the township was then partially settled and improved.<sup>1</sup> The settlement was commenced in May, 1766, by Deacon Jonathan Park, Nathaniel Stedman, and Ebenezer Dyer, who emigrated from Worcester county, Mass. For several years they suffered all the hardships and privations incident to the settlement of a new country. Without roads, horses, or oxen, they were under the necessity of conveying by their own strength all their provisions and other necessities from Hinsdale, N. H., a distance of twenty miles, through a pathless wilderness. We have no account that the early settlers of Newfane were ever molested by the Indians, but tradition informs us, that, in the war of 1756, and some years before any settlement was commenced, a battle was fought here.

<sup>1</sup> Hall's Eastern Vermont, p. 100, note.

Among the most distinguished of the early settlers were Hon. Luke Knowlton, Calvin Knowlton, the Hon. Ebenezer Allen, and the Rev. Hezekiah Taylor, all of whom exerted their influence in different ways for the benefit and prosperity of the town. In 1826, a lump of native gold was picked up in this town, weighing eight and a half ounces. It was pure gold with the exception of some small quartz crystals attached to it, weighing perhaps half an ounce. Its specific gravity was 16.5.

In 1772 the township was surveyed, and Newfane was organized on the 17th of May, 1774. It contained by charter six miles square, but it has been reduced by contributing to Brookline a small part of its territory lying on the east side of West river. The surface is diversified with high hills and deep valleys; but there are no elevations that deserve the name of mountains. The intervals afford excellent tillage, and the uplands are inferior to none for grazing; there is very little waste land. Water is supplied by West river, South branch, Smith's brook, Baker's brook, and numerous rivulets, all of which afford valuable mill sites and water privileges.

There are three small villages — Fayetteville, Williamsville, and Pondville. Newfane Hill was formerly a place of some business, and was the site of the county buildings, which are now at Fayetteville. From the summit of the hill may be seen some part of at least fifty towns lying in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts. On the east is a view of the highlands in New Hampshire and Massachusetts to the distance of sixty or seventy miles, among which rise Wachusett and Monadnock, almost indistinguishable from the sky. On the north, south, and west, little is to be discovered but an extensive sea of mountains, which displays in wild disorder ridge above ridge, and peak above peak, till the distant view is lost among the clouds. Williamsville and Pondville, on the South branch, have the advantage of good water-power. Fayetteville is pleasantly located in the easterly part, not far from West river. It contains the county buildings, two taverns, and some stores. There are four church edifices — Congregational, Baptist, and two Union; eleven school districts; three post-offices, one at each of the villages; and the Windham County Savings Bank: also, manufactories of leather and linseed oil, two good flour-mills, two lumber mills, and one large carriage manufactory. Population, 1,304; valuation, \$521,719.

NEW HAVEN, in the central part of Addison county, thirty-one miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, November 2, 1761, to John Evarts and sixty-one others; and the settlement was commenced in 1769, by a few emigrants from Salisbury, Conn., on that part which is now set off to Waltham. Among these were Phineas Brown,



Joshua Hyde, and one Griswold. The settlement was, however, broken up and abandoned in 1776, in consequence of the Revolutionary war. Near this place, and on that portion of the ancient township now constituting a part of the city of Vergennes, a fort was erected and garrisoned by troops, commanded by Ebenezer Allen and others, to protect the frontier settlements from the common enemy — the “Yorkers.” At the close of the war the settlers returned and commenced again their labors, which had been so summarily interrupted. Among the permanent settlers were Andrew Barton and one Cook, as also Brown and Griswold in the Waltham part; and within the limits of the present town, Captain Miles Bradley, Enos Peck, Elijah Foot, and Elisha Fuller.

New Haven was organized in 1785, and contains 23,390 acres. In October, 1789, New Haven gore was annexed to New Haven; in 1791, a part of New Haven was annexed to Weybridge; in October, 1783, a corner of this town was taken to aid in the incorporation of Vergennes; and, in 1796, about nine square miles were set off and incorporated as Waltham. The soil in the western part is principally clay or marl, and in the eastern part loam. Along New Haven river are alluvial flats, which are extensive and very productive. Water is furnished by Otter creek, Little Otter creek, and New Haven river, the latter of which enters from the east, about two miles from the southeast corner, and, after running five miles, falls into Otter creek, about a mile from the southwest corner of the town. In the year 1830, during the night of the 26th and 27th of July, by a change of the channel of this river, several buildings containing families were flooded, and afterwards swept away by the waters. Of twenty-one persons who were thus surprised, seven only escaped, the remaining fourteen having been drowned. The mill privileges on these streams are good. Quarries of excellent marble are found in every part of the town. New Haven contains three villages — New Haven Centre, New Haven East Mills, and Brooksville, — at each of which there is a post-office; five churches — two Congregational, one Baptist, one Second Advent, and one Methodist; fourteen school districts; and an academy; also, one woollen factory, one tannery, and one axe manufactory. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through New Haven. Population, 1,663; valuation, \$663,722.

NEWPORT, in the north part of Orleans county, upon the Canada line, and forty-eight miles from Montpelier, was granted October 26, 1781, and chartered, by the name of Duncansboro', to Nathan Fisk, George Duncan, and sixty-three others, October 30, 1802. The name was altered to Newport, October 30, 1816. The settlement was begun

before the year 1800 ; but it made little progress till within a recent period. Among the early settlers and officials were Amos Sawyer, Enos Bartlett, James C. Adams, and Luther Chapin. It is watered by a considerable branch of Missisco river, and by several streams which fall into Memphremagog lake. Black river also discharges its waters into the lake in this town. Newport has one village — Lake Bridge ; one church edifice, occupied by Congregationalists and Baptists ; twelve school districts ; and two post-offices — Newport and West Newport : also, four saw-mills, and several mechanic shops, coopering being the principal trade. Population, 748 ; valuation, \$203,800.

NORTHFIELD, in the southern part of Washington county, ten miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered to Major Joel Matthews and sixty-four others, August 10, 1781. The first land was cleared by the Hon. Elijah Paine, on the farm now or lately owned by John Averill ; and the first settlement was made in May, 1785, by Amos and Ezekiel Robinson and Staunton Richardson, from Westminster. Northfield was organized March 25, 1794, and contained 18,515 acres, which was increased November 7, 1822, by the addition of a tract from the east part of Waitsfield ; and another tract on the east and northeast side, October 26, 1846, making its present area 23,896 acres. The surface is uneven, and a range of highlands passes from north to south, both on the eastern and western side of the river. The soil is generally good, and, in many places, is easily cultivated. A vein of argillaceous slate passes through the township from south to north. The principal stream is Dog river, which runs through in a northerly direction, and affords a great number of valuable mill privileges.

Hon. Charles Paine, a son of Judge Elijah Paine, was born at Williamstown, April 15, 1799 ; graduated at Harvard College in 1820, and immediately came to Northfield, and took charge of his father's factory. He continued in this business until the burning of his factory in 1848.<sup>1</sup> By his influence and energy chiefly, the charter of the Vermont Central Railroad was obtained, and the road carried to a completion. He was also a leading spirit in other railroad enterprises. For two years (1841-42) he was governor of the state. His last great undertaking was the exploration of a route for the Pacific Railroad, when he fell a victim to the disease common to the climate, and died at Waco, Texas, July 6, 1853. There are four small villages — South, Centre, Depot, and Falls, each of which gives evidence of prosperity. The Depot vil-

<sup>1</sup> A new building has been erected upon the site of this, but not yet fitted up with machinery.

lage is the largest and most compact. All of them, excepting the Centre, are situated on Dog river, and have good water power. During the last twenty-five or thirty years Northfield has increased very rapidly, both in wealth and numbers. There are five churches — Universalist, Methodist, Congregational, Episcopal, and Roman Catholic; the Northfield Institute, twenty-one school districts, and one post-office: also,



Depot Village — Northfield.

two flannel factories, and one foundery with machine-shop attached. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through Northfield. Population, 2,922; valuation, \$783,548.

**NORTH HERO**, Grand Isle county, is an island in Lake Champlain, twenty-six miles from Burlington, and is the shire town. It was granted, in connection with South Hero and Vineyard, and they were all chartered by the name of "Two Heroes," October 27, 1779, to Ethan Allen, Samuel Herrick, and 363 others. The settlement was commenced in 1783 by Enos and Solomon Wood, the former from Bennington, and the latter from Norwich, Conn. The British erected a block-house here, at a place called Dutchman's Point, which was garrisoned, and not given up till 1796. North Hero was organized in 1789, and has an area of 7,349 acres. The soil is of an excellent quality, and produces grain of all kinds in abundance. It has no streams of any consequence, and no mills or mill privileges. There is one village, called "the City." Its

public buildings are a stone court-house and jail. It has one church edifice, occupied by the Methodists; four school districts, one post-office, and two stores. Population, 730; valuation, \$188,600.

NORWICH, in the northeast corner of Windsor county, forty miles from Montpelier, was chartered to Eleazer Wales and sixty-two others, July 4, 1761, by the name of Norwich. In 1762, the township was partly lotted, and the next year Jacob Fenton, Ebenezer Smith, and John Slafter came here from Mansfield, Conn., built them a camp and began improvements. There were at this time two men in Hanover, and a small settlement in Lebanon, both towns lying opposite in New Hampshire. In July, Smith and Slafter left Fenton at the camp, while they went to Lebanon to hoe corn; and upon their return on Saturday evening found him dead. It appeared afterwards that Colonel Otis Freeman, of Lebanon, had happened over here, and remained with Fenton till his death, when he went to procure help to bury him, which was done July 15, 1763,<sup>1</sup> and a monument was erected over the spot. In 1764, four men (says Thompson) moved their families into the township, and from this time the settlement advanced with considerable rapidity, mostly by immigration from Preston and Mansfield, Conn. "In the summer of 1764," according to Grant Powers, "Jacob Burton of Stonington, Conn., came to Norwich and viewed the country for the purpose of locating himself, provided he was suited with appearances. At that time there was no inhabitant in the town. The next year, 1765, he returned here and laid out a part of the town into lots; and in June, 1766, he came with Asa, his son, then in his fourteenth year, and some other hands, and built a saw-mill a little west of Norwich Plain. There were then but two families<sup>2</sup> in the town; one by the name of Messenger, who lived at the west end of the present bridge leading from Hanover to Norwich, and a Mr. Hutchinson, who lived near where the military academy now stands. Messenger and Hutchinson came into town either in 1765 or the spring of 1766."

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Grant Powers, in his "*Historical Sketches of the Coös Country*," says that Fenton's death occurred in 1765.

<sup>2</sup> Powers claims to have derived this information from Rev. Asa Burton, the son alluded to, and proceeds to a somewhat savage onslaught upon Thompson and his Gazetteer, on the charge of carelessness in procuring dates and facts, while he meets with a difficulty in reconciling this account with the statement of Colonel Freeman, that "Smith and Slafter were there in 1765." This he attempts to dispose of by the supposition that Burton did not refer to men without families, as it was quite common for single men to make a temporary location. Some of Thompson's four families, who came in 1764, might have remained but a short time; and it is certainly among the *possibilities*, that Mr. Burton was a year out of the way as to his father's first arrival.

The town was organized in Connecticut, the first town meeting having been held in Norwich, in 1768. The township contains about 25,000 acres, the surface of which is uneven, but nearly all admitting of cultivation. Here are some of the finest orchards in the State. The town is watered by Connecticut river, Ompompanoosuc river, Mosher's and Bloody brooks. Bloody brook falls into the Connecticut, just below the bridge leading from Norwich to Dartmouth College. This brook is said to have derived its name from a bloody battle fought here during the French war. On each of these streams are some excellent mill-seats and some fine tracts of interval. Extensive beds of iron ore are found in the northwest corner; and, on the bank of Connecticut river, about



Norwich University.

seventy rods above the mouth of the Ompompanoosuc, is an Indian burying-ground, where human bones, stone pots, and arrows are frequently found.

Among the distinguished men of this town now deceased were Hon. Peter Olcott, who died in September, 1808, having held, beside several important offices in the gift of the state, a military command at the capture of General Burgoyne, and afterwards passed through every grade of military office to that of major-general. The Hon. Thomas Murdock, who died in December, 1803, was a member of the council of the state, and a judge of the county court. The Hon. Paul Brigham, who died July 15, 1824, served four years as captain in the Revolutionary

army, and, besides holding several other important offices, was, for twenty-two years, lieutenant-governor of the state.

In 1820, an institution was established here under the name of the American Literary, Scientific, and Military Academy, and a commodious building was erected for its accommodation. It was placed under the superintendence of Captain Alden Partridge, and continued for a number of years in a flourishing condition, with pupils or cadets from nearly all the states in the Union. Subsequently the principal part of the school was removed to Middletown, Conn., but was at length restored to Norwich (a small school having meantime kept possession of the building), under the name of the Norwich University, by the act of November 6, 1834, with the insignia of a regular college, differing however in this, that no definite term was prescribed in which to complete a course of study, students being admitted to honors upon passing a satisfactory examination. This went into operation in May, 1835. It has never been practically regarded as among the colleges of the first rank. The present number of pupils is about eighty. The highest number in attendance during any year has been 104, and the least, forty. The first president was Captain Partridge. His successors have been General Truman B. Ransom, who died on the battle field of Chapultepec, General Henry S. Wheaton, and Rev. Edward Bourns, D. D., the present incumbent.

Norwich village is pleasantly situated on Norwich plain, and is a thriving little place. The town has one other village — West Norwich; five churches — Baptist, Congregational, Episcopal, and two Methodist; twenty-three school districts, and two post-offices — Norwich and Pompanoosuc; also, a tannery, and shops for making wagons, cabinet ware, sashes and blinds, and harnesses. The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad passes along the eastern boundary of Norwich. Population, 1,678; valuation, \$602,739.

ORANGE, in the northwest corner of Orange county, thirteen miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered to Captain Ebenezer Green, Amos Robinson, and sixty-three others, August 11, 1781. The first settlement was commenced by Ensign Joseph Williams, in September, 1793, on the south line of the town. Others who came early and held offices were John Sloane, Ezra and Thomas S. Paine, Goold Camp, and Fairbanks Bush.

Orange was organized March 12, 1796, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is uneven, and in some parts rather broken. Knox mountain, in the northeasterly part, is a considerable elevation, and affords inexhaustible quantities of granite for building-stone. The soil in some

parts, particularly on the heights, is rather cold and wet; in other parts, and on the streams, it is rich and productive. Large flocks of sheep are kept in this town, and considerable attention is paid to dairying. The principal streams are Jail branch and Cold branch. There are two villages — Orange and East Orange, each of which has a post-office; two church edifices — Union at Orange, and Free-will Baptist at the east village; and fourteen school districts: also, two starch factories, and several mills. Population, 1,007; valuation, \$268,867.

ORANGE COUNTY lies on the east side of the Green Mountains, about half-way between the northern and southern boundaries of the state, and contains about six hundred and fifty square miles. It was one of the three original counties made out of Cumberland, — Windham and Windsor being the others, — which were all incorporated in February, 1781. Its original limits extended northward to Canada, but nine towns were taken from it upon the west, in 1785, and the tenth, in 1786, to help form Addison: Caledonia county was incorporated from it in 1796; and some half-dozen towns were taken in 1811 and 1836 for Washington county. It has now seventeen towns. There are no large streams. Wells river runs across the northeast corner; and Connecticut river and its tributaries, particularly Ompompanoosuc and Wait's river, water the eastern and southeastern parts. The first, second, and third branches of White river water the south and southwestern part, and Stevens's branch of Winooski river waters the northwestern part. The eastern range of Green Mountains, called the height of lands, extends along the northwestern part of the county. The rocks in the northern and central parts are almost exclusively granite, which in many places makes the best of mill and building stones. Lead ore is found in Strafford, and immense quantities of the sulphuret of iron in Thetford. The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad passes along its easterly margin, and the Vermont Central crosses its southwest corner. Chelsea, lying in the centre of the county, is the shire town. The supreme court holds its annual session in March, and the county courts sit in January and June. Population, 27,296; valuation, \$8,104,338.

ORLEANS COUNTY lies in the north part of the state, about half-way between Connecticut river and Lake Champlain, and contains seven hundred square miles. It was incorporated March 2, 1797, at the time the legislature fixed the bounds of eleven counties; and the county officers were chosen at the October session of the legislature the same year. In 1836, one town was taken from this and annexed to Wash-

ington county, and four were taken to form Lamoille. It has now nineteen towns. The first settlement was commenced in 1787, in the southwestern part of the county, on the river Lamoille. This county contains more ponds than any other in the state, and Memphremagog lake lies partly in the north part. The eastern and central parts are watered by Black, Barton, and Clyde rivers, the southern part by the Lamoille, and the western part by the Missisco river. This county lies wholly between the eastern and western ranges of the Green Mountains. The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad extends into it as far as Barton, and will doubtless be continued through the eastern central part to the Canada line. Irasburgh is the capital. The annual session of the supreme court is held here in August; and the terms of the county courts occur in June and December. Population, 15,707; valuation, \$3,644,854.

ORWELL, in the southwest corner of Addison county, forty-seven miles from Montpelier, lies on the east side of Lake Champlain, and is opposite to Ticonderoga, N. Y., the average width of the lake between Mount Independence in this town and Ticonderoga being eighty rods. It was chartered by New Hampshire, to Benjamin Ferris, Benjamin Underhill, and sixty-two others, August 8, 1763. John Charter began improvements on the south end of Mount Independence, and lived here several years before the Revolution. In 1776, a large body of troops were here collected, the greater part of which were stationed at Mount Independence, at the north end of which was a breastwork with a picket fort on the top. The next year, Ticonderoga and Mount Independence fell into the hands of the British, and the Americans retreated to the south. The first permanent settlement was made in 1783, upon Mount Independence, by Amos Spafford, Shadrach Hathaway, Ebenezer Murray, Ephraim and William Fisher, and by John Charter, who was driven off during the war. The next year the Hon. Pliny Smith and others came in, and from this time the settlement advanced with considerable rapidity.

Orwell was organized December 12, 1787, and contains forty-two square miles. A small part of Benson was annexed to this town November 8, 1847, and five days after, the town was taken from Rutland county and annexed to Addison. There is a tract of about two thousand acres in the south part which is somewhat broken and hilly; but the remaining part is very smooth land, and produces abundant crops of all kinds of grain. The principal streams are East creek (which rises in Benson and falls into Lake Champlain, on the north side of Mount Independence), and Lemonfair river, which here consists



of two branches running parallel with each other, along the eastern border, and uniting near the north line of the township. On these streams are several mill privileges, which are good during a part of the year. Orwell has one village, called the Centre; and embryo villages at Abell's Corner, the Baptist church, and Chipman's Point; four church edifices — two Methodist, one Congregational, and one Baptist; twelve school districts, all having good school-houses; the Mount Independence library, recently started; two post-offices — Orwell and Chipman's Point; and the Farmers' Bank, with a capital of \$100,000: also, one grist-mill, three saw-mills, two shingle mills, and four dry goods stores. Population, 1,470; valuation, \$719,607.

PANTON, in the northwestern part of Addison county, on Lake Champlain, which separates it from Elizabethtown, N. Y., is thirty-eight miles from Montpelier. It was chartered by New Hampshire, November 3, 1761, to James Nichols and sixty-nine others, and a settlement was commenced in 1770, by John Pangborn and Odle Squire, from Cornwall, Conn., who were soon joined by Timothy Spalding and others, from the same place, and Peter Ferris, from Nine Partners, N. Y. Ferris settled at the bay where Arnold blew up his fleet during the Revolution, the wrecks of which were, at a recent period, to be seen at low water. During the Revolution this settlement was broken up, most of the men having been made prisoners, their dwellings burnt, and the women and children driven to the south. At the conclusion of peace the settlers returned, and located themselves on their former clearings. Panton was organized in 1784, and contains an area of 25,000 acres, which, after the termination of a long legal controversy with the town of Addison, was reduced to 10,530 acres. The legislature passed an act, November 3, 1847, which would have enlarged its size by some fifteen square miles, by annexing to it all of Ferrisburgh west of the Great Otter creek, but the towns refused to accept the act, it being made dependent on their ratification. The surface is very level. The only stream of consequence is Dead creek, which runs northerly nearly through the centre, and unites with Otter creek in Ferrisburgh. There is not a good mill privilege in the town. There are two church edifices — Baptist and Methodist; four school districts, and one post-office. The people are engaged exclusively in agriculture. Population, 559; valuation, \$220,743.

PAWLET, in the southwestern corner of Rutland county, seventy-seven miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 26, 1761, to Jonathan Willard and sixty-one others. The settlement was

commenced the same year by Simeon Burton and William Fairfield. The next year Captain Jonathan Willard, who owned twenty-two rights of land, equal to 7,920 acres, came here with eight or ten hired men; and Messrs. Rush, Fitch, and others arrived about the same time. Pawlet was organized in 1769, and contains 24,052 acres. It is divided nearly in the ~~centre~~ by a range of mountains extending through it from south to north, the most remarkable summit being a little north of the centre, and called Haystack mountain. The soil is dry and warm, easily cultivated, and produces good crops of grain and grass. The principal streams are Pawlet and Indian rivers, the latter of which rises from a spring of pure water sufficiently large to carry a grist-mill. Indian river abounds in trout, and takes its name from the great number of Indians who formerly resorted here for the purpose of fishing. There are two villages — Algiers and West Pawlet; five church edifices — Congregational, Methodist, Campbellite, and two Baptist; fifteen school districts, an academy, and two post-offices — Pawlet and West Pawlet: also, one grist-mill, one wagon shop, and several blacksmith's shops. The Rutland and Washington Railroad passes through this town. Population, 1,843; valuation, \$663,531.

PEACHAM, in the western part of Caledonia county, twenty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, December 31, 1763, to David Smith and sixty-nine others. In 1773, that part called "The Square" was allotted, and several claims were pitched upon. In 1774, pitches were made by Jonathan Elkins, John Sanborn, Frye Bailey, John Skeel, and Robert Carr; and the same year a line was run from Connecticut river in Barnet, through Peacham, to Missisco bay on Lake Champlain. This line was of great use to our scouts, and to deserters from the enemy during the Revolutionary war. In the spring of 1775, Jonathan Elkins came to the town, accompanied by several hired men, and began improvements upon the lot he had made choice of the year before. In March, 1776, several companies belonging to Colonel Beedel's regiment marched through Peacham to Canada upon snow-shoes. The same spring, General Bailey, having had orders to open a road from Newbury to St. Johns, for the conveying of troops and provisions into Canada, had it cut from Newbury six miles above this town, when the news arrived that our army had retreated from Canada, in consequence of which the undertaking was abandoned. Mr. Elkins moved his family to Peacham in June of this year; but, after a stay of three weeks, was obliged to retreat with General Bailey's men to Newbury, where he remained until the October following, when he moved back

again. The only families that remained here during the succeeding winter were those of Mr. Elkins, John Skeel, and Archibald McLachlin. In 1777, however, the settlement was increased by the addition of James Bailey, Asher Chamberlain, and Noah Hollyday, with their families.

In 1778, the scouts having frequently discovered tracks of Indians, the inhabitants became considerably alarmed for the safety of the settlement, expecting an attack at almost any moment. During the same year, a number of prisoners and British deserters found their way through from Canada, and arrived at Peacham in a famished condition. In 1779, General Hazen, with a part of his regiment, came to the town, for the purpose, as he said, of completing the road commenced by General Bailey in 1776, that an army might be sent through for the reduction of Canada. But this was only a feint for dividing the enemy, and preventing their sending their whole force up the lakes. The road was, however, cut by Hazen for fifty miles above Peacham, and several block-houses erected on the route. This thoroughfare was of considerable benefit to the settlers in its neighborhood after the war; and, in many places, is still called the Hazen road. Hazen marched to the south in the fall, abandoning all the block-houses except the one twelve miles above Peacham, and committing this to the care of a sergeant's guard. In the spring of 1780, Captain Aldrich came to Peacham and built a small picket around the house of James Bailey, and the block-house above was abandoned. In the fall, Aldrich marched his men to the south, leaving the inhabitants to look out for themselves. Colonel Thomas Johnson, of Newbury, who had engaged to erect mills in Peacham, arrived at Deacon Jonathan Elkins's with the mill-stones on the evening of the 6th of March, 1781. About one o'clock on the morning of the 8th, a party of the enemy from Canada came upon them and made prisoners of Colonel Johnson, Jacob Page, and Jonathan and Moses Elkins, sons of Deacon Elkins, the latter being allowed to return on account of his sickly condition. They were all carried to St. Johns. Colonel Johnson returned on parole; Mr. Page was sent to Montreal, and Jonathan Elkins to Quebec; and the two last were imprisoned. In the fall, when the British fleet sailed from Quebec, Colonel Elkins was sent a prisoner to England with about 150 others, who were distributed throughout the fleet and obliged to do duty. When the fleet arrived at Plymouth, England, the prisoners were confined in Mill prison, where they remained until they were exchanged for Cornwallis's troops, in 1782, when Colonel Elkins returned again to Peacham. Captain Nehemiah Lovewell was stationed with his company in this town during the summer of 1781. In September, he sent a scout

of four men up the Hazen road, who were ambushed and fired upon by the Indians. Two were killed and scalped, and the other two taken, and on the tenth day after they left Peacham, they were prisoners in Quebec with Colonel Elkins. There were no soldiers kept here in 1782, and two men named Bailey, of this town, were carried prisoners to Canada.

Among the distinguished men of this town was Hon. John Mattocks, who was a successful lawyer, and held and discharged with ability various public trusts,—was for three years a member of congress, two years a judge of the supreme court, and one year governor of the state. He died August 14, 1847.

Peacham was organized March 18, 1783, and contained, by the charter, 23,040 acres. One half of Deweysburgh, being about 2,650 acres, was annexed to it, November 2, 1810. In the valuation table, its area is set down at 26,008 acres. A ridge of land passes through the western part, which has no considerable elevation, but a hard, unproductive soil: the eastern part is rich, and pleasantly diversified with hills and valleys. This section is occupied by a great number of respectable and wealthy farmers. Shell marl (from which lime has been manufactured) and limestone are found in large quantities. Onion river pond lies in the western part, and covers three hundred acres. There are several other small ponds. Two considerable streams, passing off to the east into Stevens branch, afford numerous mill privileges. Peacham has four villages—Peacham, Peacham Hollow, Ewell's Mills, and Water Street; two church edifices—Congregational and Methodist Episcopal; fourteen school districts; an excellent academy, known as the Caledonia County Grammar-School, one of the oldest in the state, and endowed; and one post-office: also, one starch factory, four stores, and the usual mechanical and other business incident to an agricultural community. Population, 1,377; valuation, \$464,461.

PERU, in the northeastern corner of Bennington county, on the summit of the Green Mountains, is eighty miles from Montpelier. It was chartered by New Hampshire, October 13, 1761, to William Sumner and sixty-five others, by the name of Bromley, and the settlement was commenced about the year 1773 by William Barlow, from Woodstock, Conn. The town was organized March 1, 1802, and contains, by charter, 23,040 acres, much of which is high and broken, and but partially cleared. A portion was annexed to Mount Tabor, October 25, 1805. There are two natural ponds, one covering about forty, and the other about sixty acres. The eastern part of the town is watered by the head branches of West river. The best road across the Green Mountains in

the state, south of Montpelier, passes through this place. Peru has two church edifices — Congregational and Methodist; seven school districts; and one post-office. Population, 567; valuation, \$122,664.

**PITTSFIELD**, in the extreme northeast corner of Rutland county, thirty-five miles from Montpelier, was granted November 8, 1780, and chartered to Samuel Wilcox and 129 others, July 29, 1781. The settlement was begun in 1786, by Thomas Hodgkins, Stephen Holt, George Martin, Daniel and Jacob Bowe, and a Mr. Woodard. It was organized March 26, 1793, and contains twelve thousand acres. Portions were taken from it and added to Rochester, October 29, 1806, and November 15, 1824; and portions of Stockbridge were annexed to it, November 15, 1813, and October 22, 1822. The surface is mountainous, and so rough that some malicious wag has attributed to the good people of this place the invention and first introduction of the one-legged milking-stool, as the means of conquering a stern difficulty. The most important elevation is called Wilcox's peak. White river, and two streams which unite near the centre of the town, forming Tweed river, which falls into White river in Stockbridge, afford several good mill privileges. The religious denominations are Congregationalists and Methodists, each of which is supplied with a house of worship. There are seven school districts, and a post-office. Population, 512; valuation, \$116,207.

**PITTSFORD**, in the northerly part of Rutland county, forty-four miles from Montpelier, was granted by New Hampshire, October 12, 1761, to Ephraim Doolittle and sixty-three others, not one of whom ever settled here. The settlement was commenced in 1769 by Gideon and Benjamin Cooley, from Greenwich, Mass., who were soon joined by Roger Stevens, Felix Powell, Ebenezer Hopkins, Stephen Mead, Moses Olmstead, Edward Owen, Joshua Woodward, and others, from Massachusetts and Connecticut. During the Revolutionary war two picket forts were erected here, one called Fort Mott, and the other Fort Vengeance, the latter of which was built, early in the year 1779, upon an eminence on the east side of Otter creek, near the stage road from Pittsford to Middlebury. This was a frontier township, and Fort Vengeance was the most northerly post in Vermont, on the west side of the Green Mountains, held by the Americans during the Revolution.

Pittsford was probably organized as early as 1770, but the exact date is unknown, the first records having been accidentally burned. The town first sent a representative — Jonathan Fassett — in 1778. It has an area of 25,950 acres. The surface is generally level; a range of hills, however, extends along the west line, between this place and Hub-

bardton. The soil is mostly loam, with some tracts in which sand or clay prevails; while along the margin of Otter creek and Furnace brook are some extensive meadows of rich alluvium. Iron ore, and marble of excellent quality, are found in abundance; much of the marble was formerly taken to Middlebury to be sawn and wrought. Otter creek and Furnace brook (formed by the union of East creek and Philadelphia river) are the principal streams, the latter of which furnishes numerous mill privileges. There are two ponds, one of about twenty, the other of about thirty acres; four villages — Pittsford, Mill, Furnace, and Hitchcock; three church edifices — Congregational, Baptist, and Methodist; twelve school districts, and eight parts of districts, with fifteen schools; and one post-office: also, the Pittsford Iron Company, manufacturing pig-iron and stoves; one tannery, and several mechanic shops. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through the town. Population, 2,026; valuation, \$886,889.

PLAINFIELD, in the eastern part of Washington county, adjoining East Montpelier, was chartered to General James Whitelaw and others, October 27, 1788, by the name of St. Andrew's gore. The settlement was commenced, about the year 1794, by Theodore Perkins, Joseph Batchelder, and Seth Freeman, who were joined the next year by Jonathan and Bradford Kinney, Moulton Batchelder, John Moore, and others, from different parts of New England. The titles to the lands, under which the first settlers purchased, proved to be invalid, and they were mostly obliged to purchase a second time; but by the indulgence of the Hon. Heman Allen, into whose hands the lands had fallen, the inhabitants were generally enabled to retain the farms on which they had commenced improvements. Plainfield was organized, under the charter name, April 4, 1796, which was changed to the one it now bears, November 6, 1797. The town contains ten thousand acres. The legislature passed an act, November 14, 1855, to annex to it Goshen and Harris gores, if the people of Plainfield should accept the act; but the act was rejected. The surface is uneven; although there is but little waste land, and the soil is generally of good quality. It is watered by Winooski river, and by Great brook, which flows into the Winooski. There is a small but excellent trout pond<sup>1</sup> in the eastern part, and a mineral spring similar to the springs in Newbury, which is a place of some resort for invalids. At the junction of Winooski river and Great

<sup>1</sup> This pond broke through its embankments on the 6th of July, 1857, and swept off mills, shops, and bridges, destroying twelve thousand dollars' worth of property. There was no apparent cause for the swelling of the water, as the weather was dry.

brook is a small village. There are two meeting-houses, occupied by Methodists, Congregationalists, Baptists, and Universalists; eight school districts with nine schools; and one post-office: also, one tannery, one manufactory of edge-tools, one door and blind factory, two wooden-ware shops, and shops for making wagons, boots, tin-ware, and harnesses, besides a blacksmith's and a wheelwright's shop. Population, 808; valuation, \$255,131.

PLYMOUTH, in the western part of Windsor county, fifty-two miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, July 6, 1761, to Jeremiah Hall, John Grimes, and sixty-two others, by the name of Saltash. A grant was also made by New York to Ichabod Fisher and others, May 13, 1772, but no charter appears to have been taken out. The settlement was commenced in 1777 by John Mudge, who was soon followed by Aaron Hewett and others. The town was organized about the year 1787, and contains 25,600 acres. The present name was made to supersede that of Saltash, February 23, 1797. The surface is considerably broken, two mountains extending through the town parallel to the river, and at no great distance from it. The mountain on the north-eastern side is very abrupt, and is known as Mount Tom. At the foot of the mountain on the southwestern side of the river, are situated the Plymouth caverns, the principal one of which was discovered July 1, 1818, and on the 10th of that month was thoroughly explored by Zadock Thompson, the historian. This contains seven rooms, curious in their formation, and varying from ten to thirty feet in length, the roofs of which, when discovered, were festooned with stalactites, and the bottom with stalagmites, which have been broken off and carried away. The rocks of the cavern are limestone, and it was probably formed by the removal of the earth from among the rocks by water. This cave is visited by a large number of persons during the summer season. Plymouth is watered by Black and Ottâ Quechee rivers, on the former of which are several good mill seats. There are a number of natural ponds, which abound in fish. Soapstone is found here, as also considerable quantities of iron ore of a superior quality, which is smelted and cast into stoves at the village called Tyson Furnace. There are two church edifices — Union and Congregational; sixteen school districts, and two post-offices — Plymouth and Tyson Furnace: also, eleven saw-mills and four grist-mills. Population, 1,226; valuation, \$332,476.

POMFRET, in the northerly part of Windsor county, forty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, July 8, 1761, to Isaac Dana and sixty-five others; and the settlement was commenced, in the

spring of 1770, by Bartholomew Durkee, from Pomfret, Conn., who came in with his family, consisting of a wife and five children, on the 6th day of March, on foot, upon a snow-shoe path, drawing their furniture upon hand-sleds. In the course of a few days, they were joined in the settlement by John Cheedle and family; and in 1771, William Wilson immigrated here from Connecticut, being followed a few weeks after by his wife and three children, who came the whole distance on foot. In the course of two years the settlement was increased by a great number of families, among whom were John W. Dana, Seth Hodges, and Benjamin Bugbee. Mr. Dana soon after erected the first grist-mill, upon a small stream falling into White river.

Pomfret was organized in March, 1773, and contains 23,500 acres. The surface is considerably uneven, but the soil is generally good. There are to be seen here the traces of a hurricane, which formerly passed through the township from west to east, and which probably laid prostrate the whole of the timber, a new growth having arisen much younger than that of the neighboring forests. White river touches upon the northeast corner, and Ottâ Quechee river upon the southeast corner. There are three villages — Pomfret, South Pomfret, and Snow's Store, at each of which there is a post-office; three church edifices — Methodist, Congregational, and Christian; and sixteen school districts, in one of which there is a select school: also, two grist-mills, and five saw-mills. Population, 1,546; valuation, \$520,900.

POULTNEY, in the western part of Rutland county, sixty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, September 21, 1761, to Samuel Brown and sixty-three others, and the first proprietors' meeting was held in Sheffield, Mass., June 7, 1763. The settlement was entered upon in 1771, by Thomas Ashley and Ebenezer Allen, who with others of the early settlers emigrated either from Connecticut or the western part of Massachusetts. The first meeting on record was held March 8, 1775, at which time the town was probably organized. It contains 20,652 acres. The soil is generally warm and productive, and the surface pleasantly diversified with hills and valleys. The town is watered by Poultney river and its numerous tributaries, along which the alluvial flats are extensive and very productive, and upon which are a number of valuable mill seats. A violent freshet in July, 1811, swept off from the streams four grist and four saw mills, one woollen factory, one carding-machine, and several other buildings.

There are two pleasant villages in Poultney, called East Poultney and West Poultney, each having a post-office, and giving evidence of much business and enterprise. In the west village is the Troy Conference



Academy, which was chartered October 25, and went into operation September 1, 1836. The principal building, which is of brick, is 112 feet long by thirty-six wide. It is under the control of the Troy Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. There are four church edifices — Methodist, Episcopal, Congregational, and Baptist; and fifteen school districts; and the Bank of Poultney, with a capital of \$50,000: also, a melodeon factory, an iron foundery and machine shop, a candlestick factory, a tannery, two establishments for making blinds and doors, one for cabinet ware, and one for hones and pencils. The Rutland and Washington Railroad passes through Poultney. Population, 2,329; valuation, \$902,545.

POWNA, the southwest corner town of Bennington county, 130 miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, January 8, 1760, to Seth Hudson and fifty-five others, and under this charter the settlement was commenced in the spring of 1762, there being at that time four or five Dutch families within the township, who claimed their land under the "Hoosic Patent," granted by the government of New York. Among the early inhabitants were the families of Wright, Gardner, Morgan, Dunham, Noble, Card, Curtis, Watson, and Seelye; but the precise time when they severally came is not ascertained. In 1791, this town was the third in Bennington county, and the fifth in the State, in point of population, containing, at that time, 1,746 inhabitants, or five more than in 1850.

Pownal was organized, as is supposed, March 8, 1763, and contains twenty-three thousand acres. The surface is considerably uneven, but the soil is generally good, and produces plentiful crops. Along Hoosic river are some rich and beautiful tracts of interval. The soil is well adapted to the production of grain and grass, and here are kept some of the finest dairies in the State. The principal stream is the Hoosic river, which is formed here, and passes in a northwesterly direction into Hoosic, N. Y., possessing some valuable sites for mills. Some of the head branches of Walloomscoik river rise in the northeastern part of Pownal, and pass into Bennington. There are three villages — Pownal, Pownal Centre, and North Pownal, each of which has a post-office; four church edifices — Baptist, Methodist, Congregational, and Union; eleven school districts; and two institutions, called the Oak Grove Seminary, and North Pownal Academy: also, one woollen factory, with eighty looms; and two carriage manufactories. Population, 1,742; valuation, \$526,829.

PUTNEY, in the eastern part of Windham county, on the Connecticut river, 105 miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, December 26, 1753, to Colonel Josiah Willard, and re-chartered by New York to Willard and others, November 14, 1766. A portion of it was embraced within the "equivalent lands," forming also parts of Brattleboro' and Dummerston.<sup>1</sup> A settlement was commenced and a fort built on the "Great Meadow," so called, in the eastern part, a little previous to the breaking out of the French war in 1744; but, on the commencement of hostilities, the fort was evacuated, and the inhabitants, together with those from adjacent towns, retired to Northfield, Mass., which was the frontier post during that war. Previously to the breaking up of the fort, a man by the name of William Phipps was hoeing corn on the 5th of July, 1745, near the southwest corner of the "Meadow," when two Indians sprang upon him and dragged him into the woods near by, where, after a short parley, one of the Indians departed, leaving the prisoner under the care of his comrade. Phipps, with the hardihood characteristic of the pioneers of these wilds, watching an opportunity, struck his keeper down with the hoe, and, seizing his gun, gave the other, who was returning, a fatal wound. Thus at liberty again, he sought refuge in the fort; but, unfortunately, before he reached it, he fell in with three other Indians, who butchered the brave fellow in cold blood. Five days after this event the Indians made an attack upon Upper Ashuelot (Keene, N. H.), and killed and scalped Josiah Fisher. Shortly after, Nehemiah Howe, as he was cutting timber on the "Meadow," was captured by the Indians and carried to Canada, where he died.

In 1754, the first permanent settlement was made by Philip Alexander, from Northfield, Mass., John Perry, and John Averill, with their families, and Michael Gilson, a bachelor, his mother and two sisters, all emigrants from Massachusetts, who located themselves on the Great Meadow, as their predecessors had done; and, in the year following, 1755, in company with others lately arrived, built a fort,<sup>2</sup> on the site of the house lately occupied by Colonel Thomas White. On the completion of the fort, several of the inhabitants of Westmoreland, N. H.,

<sup>1</sup> See article on Dummerston, ante, p. 792.

<sup>2</sup> This fort was oblong, about 120 by eighty feet — built of yellow pine timber, hewed six inches thick, and laid up about ten feet high. Fifteen dwellings were erected within it, the wall of the fort forming the back wall of the houses. These were covered with a single roof called a "salt-box" roof, which slanted upward to the top of the wall of the fort. The houses all fronted the central hollow square. A great gate opened south towards Connecticut river, and a smaller one towards the west. On the northeast and southwest corners were watchtowers.

crossed the river and joined the garrison, all of whom returned to Westmoreland at the close of the French war, except Deacon Samuel Minott. In the course of the summer of 1755, Doctor Lord and William Willard joined the garrison. Aaron Alexander was the first child born in Putney before the erection of the fort. Others had their nativity within the garrison. Captain Daniel How and the father of Harrison Wheeler died in the fort, and were buried in Westminster. Rev. Andrew Gardner, who had been chaplain and surgeon at Fort Dummer, ministered here for three years. Colonel Willard gave the use of the Great Meadow, which at this time was not more than half cleared, as a consideration for building the fort and defending it during the war. The land was portioned out to each family, and the inhabitants were accustomed to work on their farms in company, that they might be prepared for an assault. During the war, there was no open attack on the fort, although Indian whoops in the vicinity often broke the stillness of the night. On one occasion they laid an ambush at the north end of the meadow, which the settlers had the good fortune to discover and elude.<sup>1</sup> Early in the autumn of 1762, Lieutenant Joshua Hide purchased 2,800 acres of land along the river, and in December following removed his family here, and settled them in a house situated about fifty rods south of the spot where Westmoreland bridge has since been erected. The families of Perry and Alexander only were here at that time; and there was no saw-mill nor grist-mill. Joshua Parker purchased land here in 1764, and settled his family on Sackett's brook, or what is now called Putney street, in March, 1765. Henry Walton, James Cummings, and Moses Johnson also erected dwellings on the street, and Benjamin Hutchins and Samuel Skinner in the east part of the town. Before the middle of the year 1765, there were fifteen families. In 1768, Noah Sabin, of Rehoboth, Mass., afterwards distinguished in the annals of Cumberland county, removed here.

Putney was organized May 8, 1770, and contained, after a part of it had been taken to form Brookline, October 30, 1794, 18,115 acres. Another portion was annexed to Brookline, October 25, 1804; and about forty-seven acres were annexed to it from the northeast corner of Dummerston, October 28, 1846. The bottom lands on the river and Sackett's brook are rich alluvial tracts, and amply repay the toil of the husbandman by their abundant crops. The "Great Meadow," with its waving fields of corn and luxuriant vegetation, on a summer day, affords a treat to the lover of nature rarely equalled. The uplands are

<sup>1</sup> Historical Sermon, at Putney, delivered Fast-Day, 1825, by Rev. E. D. Andrews. Hall's Eastern Vermont, pp. 69, 70.

mostly of a rich, strong soil, and well adapted to grazing, and the production of the hardier kinds of grain. In 1770, the town was overrun by immense swarms of worms, which ate up every green thing. Through the centre of Putney run extensive strata of argillite, or roof slate, reaching from the Massachusetts line far into Vermont; and west of these occurs the mica slate, interspersed with hard, black limestone. In the east part is found a very rare mineral, known by the name of fluat of lime or fluor spar, of a beautiful emerald green color. This is the only locality in the United States where this mineral, of an emerald green, is found; and specimens of it have been sent to the most distinguished mineralogists in this country and Europe. Sackett's brook, a never failing stream, affords many valuable mill privileges. There are two villages—Putney and East Putney. The former is about one mile from Connecticut river, and is built on both sides of Sackett's brook. The location is pleasant, in the bosom of a beautiful valley, sheltered on each side, except toward the east, from the bleak winds of our climate, by forest-crowned hills. This village contains a considerable amount of manufacturing machinery, which brings in its train a very large business. The Congregationalists, Methodists, and Baptists have each a church edifice; besides which there are eleven school districts and one post-office: also, a paper-mill, a large woollen factory, four grist-mills, five saw-mills, and manufactories of wagons, harnesses, and leather. The Vermont Valley Railroad passes through East Putney. Population, 1,425; valuation, \$484,327.

RANDOLPH, in the southwestern part of Orange county, twenty-three miles from Montpelier, was granted November 2, 1780, and chartered to Aaron Storrs and seventy others, June 29, 1781. A company, consisting of twenty persons, was formed at Hanover, N. H., then called Dresden, in May, 1778, for the purpose of purchasing this township, known to them by the name of Middlesex, at the first meeting of which Hon. Joseph Marsh was chosen moderator, and agent to present a petition to the legislature for a charter. The settlement was commenced three or four years before the charter was obtained; and, as nearly as can be ascertained, William Evans and family, Edward Evans, John Parks, and Experience Davis, were the first persons who passed the winter in the place. On the 17th of October, 1780, the day after the burning of Royalton, Zadock Steele was taken from this place by the Indians and carried into captivity. Eminent among the citizens of this place was Hon. Dudley Chase, who was for many years speaker of the house of representatives of Vermont, a judge of the supreme court from 1817 to

1820, and a senator in congress from 1813 to 1817, and again from 1825 to 1831. His death occurred February 23, 1846.

Randolph was organized March 31, 1783, and contains 28,596 acres. The surface is considerably elevated, but is less broken than that of the land generally in this vicinity. The soil is productive and the farming interest extensive. The town is watered by the second and third branches of White river, the former running through the eastern and the latter through the western part. These streams and their tributaries afford a number of advantageous situations for mills. There are four villages — Randolph, East Randolph, West Randolph, and Farwell Village. Randolph Village is very handsomely situated on rising ground, and contains the Orange County Grammar-School, which was established November 8, 1806, and is well furnished with apparatus, having also a good library for the use of the scholars. This academy has been, for the most part, deservedly popular. Randolph East Village is situated on the second branch of White river, is compactly built, and a place of considerable business. Mills of various kinds are in operation. West Randolph also has an academy, as well as some manufactories and mills. There are seven church edifices — Methodist, Free-will Baptist, Universalist, Christian, Episcopalian, and two Congregational; twenty-four school districts; and four post-offices — at Randolph, and at the east, west, and north villages: also, three grist-mills, one oil mill, and one carding mill. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through the town. Population, 2,666; valuation, \$1,081,414.

READING, centrally situated in Windsor county, fifty-three miles from Montpelier, was chartered to Israel Stowell, Zedekiah Stone, Jonathan Hammond, and fifty-nine others, July 6, 1761. This township was also granted by New York, March 6, 1772, to Simon Stevens and others, with 20,800 acres, but it does not appear that a charter was ever issued by New York. The settlement was commenced, about the year 1772, by Andrew Spear, who removed his family here from Walpole, N. H., and for several years this was the only family in town. About the year 1778, John Weld moved his family from Pomfret, Conn., and several young men, from that and the other New England states, began improvements in the south and eastern parts. Most of the early settlers were in poor circumstances as to property, and, like the settlers of other new townships, had to endure privations and hardships. The first town meeting was held March 30, 1780, when the proper officers were chosen. Reading embraces 23,040 acres, the surface of which is very uneven, and the hills are quite abrupt. Towards the west part is an elevated

tract of land extending from north to south, from which issue the principal streams. The soil is of ordinary capacity, and affords excellent pasturage. On the line between Reading and Plymouth is a natural pond, about two hundred rods in length and fifty in breadth, the outlet of which leads into Plymouth pond. Some small streams which rise in the north part fall into Quechee river at Woodstock, North village, affording a tolerable supply of water for common mills. There are four villages—Reading Centre, South Reading, Felchville, and Hammondsville, the three former of which have post-offices. There are three church edifices—all Union; one in Felchville, in the southeast corner of the town, generally occupied alternately by the Baptists and Methodists; one of stone, at South Reading, built and occupied by the Universalists and Methodists; and one at Reading Centre, built in 1816, and owned by all denominations, but no longer used as a house of worship: it is kept in repair, and used by the town for its meetings. The town had formerly a public library, which was some years since destroyed by fire. There are eleven school districts and ten schools: also, eight saw-mills, one woollen factory, five grist-mills, three bedstead manufactories, and one rake and one tin-ware manufactory. Population, 1,171; valuation, \$447,262.

READSBOROUGH, in the southeast corner of Bennington county, adjoining Massachusetts, about 125 miles from Montpelier, contains 20,480 acres; but by what grant or charter the lands are holden is unknown. It is supposed, however, that this may have been one of the many New York grants, of which no charters have ever been found. The records were destroyed by fire in 1794, and the earliest now found in the office are dated in that year. At that time, Joseph Hartwell and Throop Chapman were selectmen, and were preceded by Simeon Thayer, Elijah Bayley, and Ezra Amidon; and John Fairbanks was town clerk. The surface is exceedingly mountainous, and much of it is unsuitable for settlement. The streams are Deerfield river, which runs along the eastern boundary into Massachusetts, and a branch of this river, which runs diagonally through the town from northwest to southeast. These streams afford several mill privileges, which have been improved. There are two villages—Readsboro' City and Hartwellville, each of which has a post-office; two church edifices—Universalist and Methodist; and ten school districts: also, two grist-mills, seven saw-mills, two shops for making broom-handles, one for staves, and one for pen-holders; one chair manufactory, and one tannery. Population, 857; valuation, \$176,305.

**RICHFORD**, in the northeast corner of Franklin county, fifty miles from Montpelier, was granted March 13, 1780, and chartered to Jonathan Wells and fifty-nine others, August 21 of the same year, containing 23,040 acres. The settlement was begun in 1796, by Hugh Miller and Theophilus Hastings, and the town was organized March 30, 1799. Chester Wells, Jonathan and Daniel Janes, and Robert Canady were the first officers, and Benjamin Barnett was the first representative, in 1796.

The eastern part is high and broken, and the southeast corner extends on to Jay Peak. Along the river is some fine interval land. The principal stream is Missisco river, which enters from Canada, and runs through the town in a southwesterly direction into Berkshire. Richford has one church edifice occupied by the Methodists and Baptists; ten school districts, a high school, and two post-offices — Richford and East Richford: also, one tannery. Population, 1,074; valuation, \$216,044.

**RICHMOND**, in the central part of Chittenden county, twenty-four miles from Montpelier, was formed from portions of Huntington, Williston, Bolton, and Jericho, and incorporated October 27, 1794. Other territory was annexed to it from Bolton, October 25, 1804, and it contains about twenty thousand acres. The first attempt to form a settlement was made in 1775, by Amos Brownson and John Chamberlain with their families, but they abandoned the place in the fall, and did not return till the close of the Revolutionary war. In the spring of 1784, they returned to the farms on which they had made beginnings, accompanied by Asa and Joel Brownson, Samuel and Joshua Chamberlain, James Holly, Joseph Wilson, and Jesse McFarlain. Richmond was organized in March, 1795. Along Winooski river, the alluvial flats are extensive and beautiful. Winooski and Huntington rivers, and several smaller streams, furnish plentiful supplies of water and some good mill privileges. Matthew Cole was the first physician. He died in 1809, and was succeeded by his brother, Seth Cole. Rev. Ezra Wilmot, ordained over the Baptist church, was the first settled minister, and the only one until 1823. There are three church edifices — Congregational, Universalist, and Catholic; four villages — Richmond, Jonesville, Fay's Corner, and the Flat; twelve school districts; and two post-offices — Richmond and Jonesville: also, manufactories of wagons, harnesses, tin ware, cabinet and wooden ware. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through Richmond. Population, 1,453; valuation, \$370,125.

**RIPTON** (originally called Riptown), Addison county, lies on the west side of the Green Mountains, its east line extending to the top thereof, and joins the very flourishing town of Middlebury, being twenty-six

miles from Montpelier. It was chartered April 13, 1781, to Abel Thompson and fifty-nine others. The first settlers were Ebenezer and Asa Collier, who arrived in 1801. The first town meeting was convened on the 3d of March, 1828. The history of Ripton is not remarkable for any interesting event, except that it is the place where the Hon. Daniel Chipman, the able and talented lawyer, spent the last twenty years of his life. He graduated at Dartmouth College in 1788 — studied law with his brother Nathaniel — was a member of congress from 1814 to 1817 — was frequently speaker of the house of representatives of Vermont — was the first reporter of the decisions of the supreme court, and the author of a valuable treatise on the law of contracts for the sale of specific articles. He died here April 23, 1850, at the age of eighty-five.

Ripton is watered by Middlebury river; the soil is stony and sandy, and very suitable to the growth of strawberries, raspberries, sorrel, and other acid vegetables. The elevation of the town being ten or twelve hundred feet above the valley of Otter creek, the seasons are not generally of sufficient length for the production of corn, though other grains thrive, with a proper application of lime and ashes, and dairying finds good encouragement. Ripton contained by charter twenty-four thousand acres; and it has been increased by annexations from the towns of Goshen, Middlebury, and Salisbury, to 35,900 acres, a long part of which is yet in its wild and natural state. The resources of Ripton are yet great in timber for lumber and coal. Spruce and hemlock constitute the larger portion of the forest-trees. It is watered by Middlebury river, which runs through the south part. For fifty years past, there has been a good road from Middlebury through this town to Hancock and Rochester; and the centre turnpike, from Middlebury village to Bethel, is now a free thoroughfare, excepting through Hancock. Ripton has one church edifice — Congregational; five school districts, and one post-office: also, several saw-mills and shingle mills, one grist-mill, and one clapboard mill. Population in 1850, 567, which has increased to about 700; valuation, \$91,970.

ROCHESTER, in the northwest corner of Windsor county, thirty miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered to Hon. Dudley Chase, Asa Whitcomb, and sixty-three others, August 30, 1781. The settlement was commenced in the winter of 1781-2 by David Currier with his family. Other early settlers were John Emerson, John Sawyer, Joel Cooper, and Timothy Clement. Frederick and William Currier, twin sons of the first settler, were the first natives of Rochester. Rochester was organized May 15, 1788, and contained originally

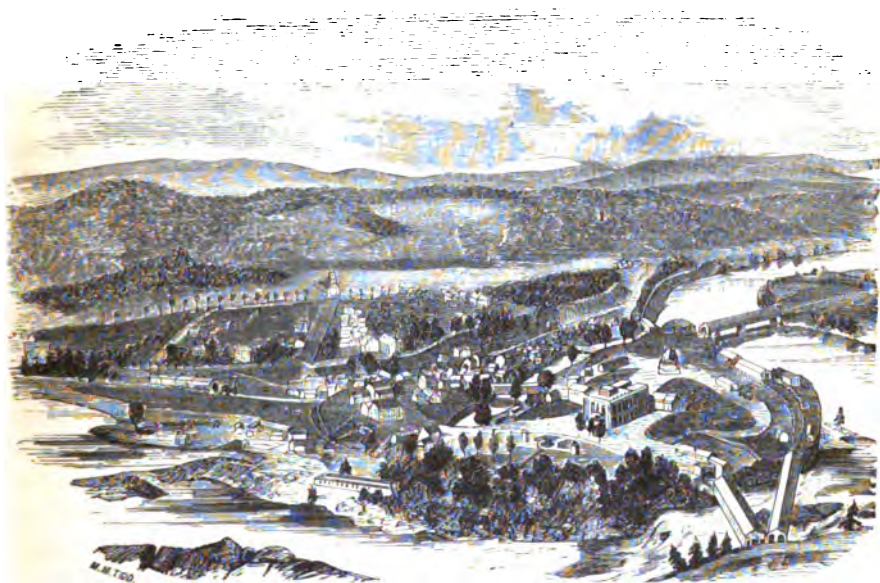


23,040 acres; and it has been increased by additions from Braintree, November 10, 1824; from Hancock, October 28, 1834, and October 30, 1847. The surface is mountainous and broken, but there is much good land within the limits of the town. The interval along the river is handsome, but not extensive. The principal stream is White river, which runs through from south to north, receiving, about half a mile from the centre, a considerable tributary from the west, which originates in Goshen. On each of these streams are good situations for mills. There are two villages—Rochester and Lower Mills; three church edifices—Congregational, Methodist Episcopal, and Universalist; fifteen school districts, and two post-offices—Rochester and West Rochester: also, one grist-mill, several saw-mills, one tub factory, and a variety of mechanic shops. Population, 1,493; valuation, \$455,678.

ROCKINGHAM, in the northeast corner of Windham county, bordering on the Connecticut river, which separates it from Walpole, N. H., is eighty-two miles from Montpelier. It is supposed to have been granted by Massachusetts, as "Number Two," at the time townships were surveyed and granted between Merrimack and Connecticut rivers, by authority of that state, in 1735; and previous to 1750, it was called Goldenstown. It was chartered by New Hampshire, December 28, 1752, to Samuel Johnson and seventy-three others, and the settlement was begun in 1753 by Moses Wright, Joel Bigelow, and Simeon Knight, who emigrated from Massachusetts. The names of some of the pioneer settlers were Major James Davis, a man by the name of Atchison, John Flint, and Oliver and Timothy Lovell, the latter of whom was a tory. Jonathan Barry came here in 1784, at which time there were but few clearings, excepting on the margin of Connecticut river, and on the main road leading from what is now the Falls village to Chester. But little is known of the early history of Rockingham, save what has already been given. The attention of the first settlers was principally directed to fishing for salmon and shad, which were then taken in great abundance at Bellows Falls; and for this reason agriculture was, for many years, much neglected, and the settlement advanced very slowly. In 1771, there was a population of 225.

Rockingham was organized about the year 1760, and contains 24,955 acres. A portion was annexed to Athens, November 2, 1846. The surface is somewhat broken. The principal streams are Williams' and Saxton's rivers. Bellows falls are in Connecticut river, near the southeast corner of the town, the breadth of the river above the falls being from sixteen to twenty-two rods. At the falls a large rock

divides the stream into two channels, each about ninety feet wide. When the water is low the eastern channel appears crossed by a bar of solid rock, and the whole river flows into the western channel, where it is contracted to the breadth of sixteen feet, and descends with astonishing rapidity. There are several pitches, one above another, for the distance of half a mile, the largest of which is where the rock divides the stream. In 1785, Colonel Enoch Hale erected a bridge over the Connecticut at these falls, the length of which was 365 feet, supported in the middle by the great rock mentioned above. Till 1796, this was



Bellows Falls Village.

the only bridge across the Connecticut. It is here about fifty feet from the water, and from it the traveller has an interesting and sublime view of the falls. About eight rods south of this bridge, upon two rocks on the west margin of the river, are some picture writings supposed to have been made by Indians that frequented the spot, consisting of variously ornamented Indian heads, of different sizes, which Schoolcraft interprets as the record of some Indian battle, or exploit. The Cheshire Railroad bridge also crosses the river at the falls, and the Sullivan Railroad bridge a little above. The whole descent of the river at these falls is forty-two feet.

There are five pleasant villages — Bellows Falls (a view of which is here given), in the southeastern part of the town, Rockingham, Saxton's River, Cambridgeport, and Bartonsville, each of which has a post-office;

eight church edifices—two Congregational, two Baptist, one Universalist, one Episcopalian, one Methodist, and one Roman Catholic; two high schools; sixteen school districts (the schools being conducted on the graded system); two newspapers—the Argus and Times; and the Bank of Bellows Falls, with a capital of \$100,000; also, a paper-mill, a woollen factory, and manufactories of furniture, marble, sashes and blinds, iron castings, carriages, cabinet ware, rifles, harnesses, shoe pegs, and organs. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad runs through Rockingham. Population, 2,837; valuation, \$1,068,554.

ROXBURY, at the southern extremity of Washington county, fifteen miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered to Benjamin Emmons and sixty-four others, August 6, 1781. The settlement was begun in 1789, by Christopher Huntington, who came originally from Mansfield, Conn., but had resided a short time in Norwich previous to his removal to this town.

The town was organized March 24, 1796, and contains an area of 23,040 acres, and is noted chiefly for its marble. There is an inexhaustible supply of the true *verd antique*, the composition and appearance of which are so identical with that obtained from ancient ruins, that the best judges have mistaken one for the other. Although these quarries have been opened but a short time, this beautiful stone has already found its way into the new capitol extension at Washington, and into the parlors of the wealthy in New York and Paris. The committee for the erection of the Franklin Monument in Boston, after subjecting it to the severest tests of heat, cold, and pressure, selected it for that purpose. Roxbury is situated on the height of land between Winooski and White rivers, and has two villages—Roxbury and East Roxbury, at each of which is a post-office; one Union meeting-house, and eleven school districts. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through the town, and rises here to an altitude of 997 feet above the sea level. Population, 967; valuation, \$210,000.

ROYALTON, in the north part of Windsor county, thirty-one miles from Montpelier, was originally granted by New York to George Bangor, William Smith, Whitehead Hicks, and John Kelly, and was by them surveyed and allotted in 1770. The first permanent settlement was made in 1771 by Robert Havens with his family. The next year he was joined by Elisha Kent and family. It being ascertained by the settlers, who had all purchased under the New York charter, that the legislature of Vermont was about to treat this township as vacant land, and grant it to Eliakim Spooner and others, they applied and obtained

a grant of the same, the second charter issuing to Comfort Seaver and sixty-two others, December 20, 1781.

In 1780, there were about three hundred persons here, and the place was in a very thriving state. They had hardly secured the harvest of that year, when they received a hostile visit from the Indians, and the settlement was laid in ashes. The Indians commenced their depredations on the morning of the 16th of October, at the house of John Hutchinson, who lived near the line between Tunbridge and Royalton. After making Mr. Hutchinson and his brother Abijah prisoners, they proceeded to the house of Robert Havens, where they killed Thomas Pember and Peter Button. They then went to the house of Joseph Kneeland, and made prisoners of him, his father, Simeon Belknap, Giles Gibbs, and Jonathan Brown; proceeding thence to the house of Elias Curtis, where they made him, John Kent, and Peter Mason, prisoners. Thus far the business was conducted with the greatest silence, and the prisoners were forbidden to make any outcry upon pain of death. They at length arrived at the mouth of the branch, where they made a stand, while small parties proceeded in different directions to plunder the dwellings and bring in prisoners. By this time the alarm had become general; the inhabitants were flying for safety in every direction, and the savages filled the air with their horrid yells. Not satisfied with the depredations they had already made here, one party went to Sharon, and another proceeded up the river, burning and pillaging as they went.

During the attack there were several occurrences which are worthy of notice. In one of the houses first attacked, two women, being suddenly awakened by the rushing in of the savages, were so much frightened that they lost the use of their reason, went out of their doors *déshabille*, and stood motionless till the Indians brought them their clothes. This act of negative kindness restored their senses; they dressed themselves, collected the children, and fled to the woods, while the savages were engaged in plundering the house. At another place one of the women had the boldness to reproach the Indians for distressing helpless women and children, telling them that if they had the courage of warriors, they would cross the river and go and fight the men at the fort. The Indians bore her remarks patiently and only replied, *Squaw should n't say too much*. At another place, a woman, having her gown carried out of the house with other plunder, resolved to recover it. Seeing it in a heap of pillage which the savages were dividing among themselves at the door, she seized it; upon which one of the Indians clubbed his gun and knocked her down. Not discouraged, she patiently awaited an opportunity when the savages were collecting more plunder, seized and brought off her gown, having at the same time one child in her arms.

and leading another by the hand. Another woman having her young son taken away with other little boys, followed the Indians with her other children, and entreated them to give him up, which they did. Encouraged by this success, she then interceded for others, and finally prevailed upon them to give up twelve or fifteen of her neighbors' children. One of the Indians then in a fit of good-humor offered to carry her over the river upon his back. She accepted his proposal, and her savage gallant carried her safely over, although the water was half his depth, and she soon returned with her little band of boys, to the no small surprise and joy of their parents.

Benjamin Parkhurst, one of the first settlers, died here December 15, 1842, at the advanced age of ninety-seven years, having been an inhabitant of the town seventy-eight years. His family were noted for longevity. William Waterman, a resident who died here March 10, 1845, was a soldier in the Revolution; was at the battle of White Plains, and received a very severe wound in the leg. He was taken prisoner by the British at one time, and placed on board the prison-ship off New York, from which he made his escape by swimming to Long Island, made his way to the American quarters, and served through the war.

The early records are missing, so that it is impossible to ascertain to a certainty when the town was organized; it was probably, however, about the year 1774 or 1775. Royalton contains 22,320 acres. The surface is somewhat broken and hilly, but the soil is good, particularly along White river and its branches, where it is of a superior quality. White river runs through in an easterly direction, and receives here its first and second branches, which are the only streams of much consequence. There are two villages—Royalton and South Royalton, the former of which is pleasantly situated on the bank of White river, near the centre of the town; three church edifices—Congregational, Episcopal, and Methodist; a very flourishing educational institution, called the Royalton Academy, incorporated in 1807; eighteen school districts; two post-offices—one at each of the villages; and the Bank of Royalton, with a capital of \$100,000: also, two grist-mills and several saw-mills. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through Royalton. Population, 1,850; valuation, \$655,503.

RUPERT, in the northwestern corner of Bennington county, seventy-eight miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 20, 1761, to Samuel Robinson and sixty-one others, containing 23,040 acres; and the settlement was commenced in 1767 by Isaac Blood, Reuben Harmon, Oliver Scott, and a Mr. Eastman. It is not possible

to learn when the first town meeting was held, Josiah Cass, the first clerk and a noted tory, having carried off or destroyed the records. It appears from the records that Enos Harmon was clerk in 1780, but the other officers are not given. The surface is uneven, and the eastern part mountainous; though the soil is very good for farming. Rupert is watered by Pawlet river, and by White creek, which runs southwesterly into the Battenkill in Washington county, N. Y. In the summer of 1856, a tornado passed through a corner of Rupert, making a track of about a quarter of a mile, prostrating fences, trees, buildings, and whatever came before it, besides killing cattle and horses, and injuring some men. There are three villages — Rupert, East Rupert, and West Rupert, having each a post-office; three church edifices — Congregational, Baptist, and Campbellite; and nine school districts: also, one grist-mill and three saw-mills. The inhabitants are almost exclusively engaged in agricultural pursuits. The Rutland and Washington Railroad passes through Rupert. Population, 1,101; valuation, \$495,890.

RUTLAND, about the centre of Rutland county, fifty miles from Montpelier, is the capital of the county. It was chartered by New Hampshire to John Murray and sixty-three others, most of whom resided in that state, September 7, 1761. None of the original proprietors ever permanently located in the town; and the first attempts at settlement were made, principally by adventurers from Connecticut and the western part of Massachusetts, in 1770, among whom were James Mead and Simeon Powers. During the war of the Revolution, Rutland was for some time a frontier settlement, and was subject to all the commotions and inconveniences incident to its situation. Through it lay the only military road from Charlestown, N. H., to Ticonderoga and Crown Point, on Lake Champlain. During the war the Vermont troops, or Green Mountain Boys, erected two small picket forts here, sufficient to contain one hundred men each, one of which was situated on the present site of the east village, about twelve rods north of the court-house; the other was at the head of the falls in Otter creek, then called Mead's falls. As a means of checking the incursions of the enemy, and of facilitating the communication between the eastern part of the state and Lake Champlain, these forts were found to be very useful.

Rutland was probably organized in 1779, as would appear from old documents, although the records begin in 1780, when Moses Hale, Roswell Post, James Claghorn, and Zebulon Mead were selectmen, John Smith appearing to be clerk the year previous. Its area is 26,500 acres. The surface is uneven, and presents quite a variety of soil. The eastern and

western sides are skirted by ranges of the Green Mountains. The principal stream is Otter creek.



Old Court House.

islature held its session in this building during the years 1784, 1786, 1792, 1794, 1796, 1797, and 1804.

The quarrying of marble is the principal branch of business at Rutland, a fact well known to the world, inasmuch as many parts of the United States depend upon this town for supplies, and large quantities



Marble Quarries, West Rutland.

are exported to Europe. There are seven quarries in active operation, in the business of which a capital of \$500,000 is invested. The receipts

average annually about the same amount as the capital. 850 men are employed in these quarries, in the various branches of the business. The quarry recently opened near Sutherland falls furnishes marble of an exceedingly fine and beautiful quality, which is used for statuary purposes, and is found to be fully equal to the marble of any part of the world. The greater portion of the marble, after excavation, is taken to a mill erected on the nearest water privilege, and then sawn into slabs. The mills at West Rutland, represented in the foregoing engraving, are, however, propelled by steam. The sawing process is somewhat similar to that of the lumber gang-saws, with this difference, that the marble saws run horizontally and are merely thin plates of iron destitute of teeth, sand mingled with water, which is continually poured in from above, being a substitute therefor. The average white marble of Rutland sells at a price fifty per cent. higher, at the quarries, than does the veined Italian marble, delivered in the city of New York.

The suicide of a Mr. Temple, in October, 1834, produced a profound sensation, not only in this vicinity, but in almost every part of the state. He occupied a very high social position, and was, at the time of his death, a pension agent. It appears that he had drawn from the department at Washington \$80,000 on spurious paper; and the secretary of the treasury having discovered his guilt, sent the evidence thereof to the district attorney with directions to bring him to trial. This letter, by some untoward circumstance, fell into the hands of the guilty man; and, knowing the handwriting, he opened it, suspecting there was something wrong. When he found how matters stood, he took his gun, under the plea of going out for sport, and, having gone a short distance from his residence, deliberately shot himself.

Several among the citizens or sons of Rutland are particularly deserving of notice. Hon. Israel Smith, who was born in Connecticut, April 4, 1759, graduated at Yale College in 1781, studied law with his brother at Barrington, first practised at Rupert, and then removed to Rutland. He was a member of congress from 1791 to 1797, when he was chosen chief justice of the supreme court, and served one year; was again member of congress from 1801 to 1803; senator in congress from 1803 to 1807, in which latter year he was chosen governor, and became insane before the expiration of his term. He died in 1810. Hon. Charles K. Williams was born at Cambridge, Mass., January 24, 1782, and was the son of Professor Samuel Williams. He graduated at Williams College in 1800, and soon took up a residence in Rutland. He was state's attorney for this county in 1814-15; judge of the supreme court in 1823-24; collector of customs for the Vermont district from 1825 to 1829. From 1829 to 1846 he was again judge of the



supreme court, the last thirteen years of which he was chief justice. From 1850 to 1852 he was governor of the state, and died here March 9, 1853. Rev. Rufus W. Griswold was born in Rutland, and became a Baptist preacher, residing in Philadelphia, and finally in New York. He devoted most of his time to literary pursuits, and published a great number of prose works, and some poetry. Prominent among these were the "Poets and Poetry of America," the "Prose Writers of America," and the "Sacred Poets of England and America." He died suddenly at New York, August 27, 1857. This town is also the home of Hon. Solomon Foot, senator in congress.

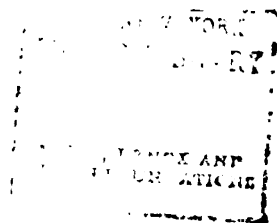
The construction of the railroads through Rutland has done much to facilitate its progress. Four railroads now centre here—the Rutland and Burlington, the Western Vermont, the Rutland and Washington, and the Whitehall and Saratoga. There are three villages—Rutland, West Rutland, and Centre Rutland; eight church edifices—two Congregational, two Methodist, two Roman Catholic, one Baptist, and one Episcopal; twenty-one school districts; the Union High School; one newspaper—the Rutland Herald; one bank, with a capital of \$150,000; and four post-offices—Rutland, West Rutland, Centre Rutland, and Sutherland's Falls: also, two flour mills, one iron foundry and machine-shop, and six marble mills. There are two incorporated marble companies—the Rutland Marble Company, and the American Marble Company. The principal articles of trade are agricultural products, marble, boots and shoes, clothing, fire-arms, and furniture. The mercantile business of Rutland is very large. The population, in 1850, was 3,715; September 15, 1857, 7,633, being an increase in seven years of more than one hundred per cent.; valuation, \$2,414,803.

RUTLAND COUNTY, on the west side of the Green Mountains, was incorporated from Bennington county in February, 1781, and embraced all of the state north of the parent county and west of the mountains, until Addison county was taken from it in 1785, which reduced it to its present, less than one third of its original size. It contains 958 square miles, and is divided into twenty-five towns. Of these Rutland is the shire town; and the annual term of the supreme court commences here on the first Monday after the fourth Tuesday in January; the terms of the county courts are held in March and September.

The surface is, for the most part, hilly and broken. Along Otter creek and in the southwest part of the county the surface is level, and the soil very productive. This stream flows through the county in a northwesterly direction, and falls into Lake Champlain at Ferrisburgh. Black, White, and Quechee rivers all originate in the eastern part, and,



Rutland.



flowing easterly, fall into the Connecticut. Pawlet, Poultney, Castleton, and Hubbardton rivers water the west and southwest parts of the county. All varieties of soils exist, and these are mingled in every possible way. Of these, the loams predominate. A mixture of loam and sand is found best for grains; clay the best for grass, if sufficiently wet; and slate the best for wheat. Of the crops, hay is the first in importance; the next is corn, then oats, potatoes, pease, beans, carrots, and turnips. The county raises one tenth of its wheat, nine tenths of corn and oats consumed, and pork equal to its own consumption. Maple sugar is also a staple article of produce. Of rock, the limestone formation is predominant. Quarries, containing marble from the finest to the coarsest qualities, and of all colors, as well as of purest white, are inexhaustible. Slate is found equal to any in the world, for writing, for roofing and other purposes. Iron ore is also abundant, particularly in Tinmouth, Pittsford, Chittenden, and Brandon. The marble and slate quarries, with their mills and manufactories, the ore beds and furnaces, employ a large class of the population, and are rapidly developing the mineral wealth of the state. Population, 33,059; valuation, \$11,043,681.

RYEGATE, in the southern part of Caledonia county, lies directly opposite to Bath, N. H., and is thirty-three miles from Montpelier. It was chartered by New Hampshire, September 8, 1763, to Richard Jenness and ninety-three others, and was originally settled by emigrants from Scotland. A company was formed in 1772, by a number of farmers in the shires of Renfrew and Lanark, for purchasing a tract of land for a settlement in North America, and the sum of £1,000 was raised to defray the expense. In March, 1773, David Allen and James Whitelaw were sent by the company to explore the country, and purchase such a tract of land as their funds would permit. After a thorough examination, they purchased the south half of Ryegate, and immediately gave notice thereof to their constituents. In the spring and summer of 1774, a number of families and several young men came over and commenced a settlement, Aaron Hosmer and family being the only persons here previous to this time. In 1775, sixty persons left Scotland to settle in Ryegate; but, unfortunately for them, before they arrived the Revolutionary war had commenced, and they were detained in Boston by General Gage, who gave them their choice, either to join the British army, go to Nova Scotia or Canada, or return to their own country. Some of them settled in Nova Scotia, but the majority of them returned to Scotland, so that no addition was made to the settlement during the Revolution. Those, however, who had settled previ-

ously, maintained their ground ; and, after peace was concluded in 1783, families annually arrived from Scotland for several years, including one of those who had returned from Boston, and two young men who had gone to Nova Scotia in 1775.

Ryegate was organized in 1776, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is uneven, and in the north and east parts hilly and ledgy. Nearly all of it, however, is fit for pasture, and a large proportion of it is arable land. On Connecticut river are a few tracts of interval. Tickle-naked pond, covering sixty-four acres, and North pond, are situated in this town, and afford several mill privileges. At Canoe Falls there is a dam across the Connecticut, and a grist and saw mill on the Ryegate side. Wells river runs through the southwest part of Ryegate, and is about four rods wide, affording many excellent mill sites. Blue mountain, situated about a mile northwest of the centre, is the only eminence of note, and is composed of granite, affording inexhaustible quarries of excellent mill-stones. Limestone is abundant in many parts.

Nearly two thirds of the inhabitants are of Scotch descent, and still, in a great measure, follow the habits and subsist upon the diet to which they were accustomed in Scotland. They introduced the method of manufacturing oatmeal, which was a great benefit to the inhabitants during the cold seasons between 1810 and 1817. In those seasons about eight thousand bushels of oats were annually made into meal in this town and about as many in Barnet. The Scotch inhabitants of Ryegate and Barnet have gained a high reputation for the manufacture of good butter. There are two villages—Ryegate and South Ryegate, at each of which is a post-office. The religious denominations are the Associate Presbyterian and the Scotch Reformed Presbyterian churches, each of which has a meeting-house. There are nine school districts: also, one grist-mill, five saw-mills, and one leather manufactory. The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad passes through Ryegate. Population, 1,606; valuation, \$430,200.

SALEM, in the northeasterly part of Orleans county, fifty miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered August 18, 1781, to Colonel Jacob Davis and sixty-four others. The settlement was commenced by Ephraim Blake in March, 1798. Amasa Spencer came into town in 1801, and David Hopkins, Jr., in 1802. Salem was organized April 30, 1822, and contains 17,330 acres. The surface is uneven, but not mountainous. Clyde river runs through in a north-westerly direction and falls into Salem pond, which is partly in this town and partly in Derby. There is no other stream of consequence, and no mills nor mill privileges. There are two ponds, one of which

lies in the course of Clyde river, and the other on the line between this and Brownington, each of which is about one mile in length and three fourths of a mile in breadth. South bay of Lake Memphremagog lies between this place and Newport. There is no church edifice, but the most numerous sect is the Free-will Baptist; there are eight school districts. Population, 455; valuation, \$75,000.

SALISBURY, centrally situated in Addison county, thirty-four miles from Montpelier, was chartered November 3, 1761. The first person who came into Salisbury with a view of settling was Amos Storey. He built a log hut, which was consumed by fire, and he himself was killed by the fall of a tree before his family moved in. Thomas Skeeles and Abel Waterhouse were the two next who lent their exertions to the settlement. The widow of Mr. Storey, and eight or ten small children, made the first family that moved into town, which, according to a vote of the proprietors, entitled her to one hundred acres of land. She arrived on the 22d day of February, 1775, and endured almost every kind of hardship, laboring in the field, chopping down timber, and clearing and cultivating the soil. She retreated several times to Pittsford during the Revolution, on account of the danger apprehended from the enemy; but, at length, she and a Mr. Stevens prepared themselves a safe retreat, which was effected by digging a hole horizontally into the bank of the Otter creek just above the water, barely large enough to admit one person at a time. This passage led to a spacious lodging-room, the bottom of which was covered with straw, and upon this beds were laid for the accommodation of their families. The entrance to this novel and ingenious habitation was concealed by bushes, which hung over it from the bank above. The wary occupants of it usually retired to their lodgings in the dusk of the evening, and left them before light in the morning, and this was effected by means of a canoe, so that no path or footsteps were to be seen, which would lead to their discovery.<sup>1</sup> The family of Abel Waterhouse was the third in town; and his widow married Christopher Johnson. Mrs. Storey married Benjamin Smalley, the first settler of Middlebury, and after his death she married Stephen Goodrich, one of the first selectmen of Middlebury.

Salisbury was organized March 17, 1788, and contains about 16,000 acres; although it appears to have been chartered six miles square,

<sup>1</sup> Those who have read the exciting novel, by Hon. D. P. Thompson, entitled the "Green Mountain Boys," will doubtless remember the terrible explosion which took place in this cavern, by which quite a number of the Yorkers came to their end. Although not intended as a historical work, the narrative is regarded as founded in fact.

and to have been reduced to this size by a compromise with the town of Leicester, between which and this town a dispute had been maintained, and had resulted in a nearly equal division of the territory. A portion was annexed to Ripton, November 1, 1832. The surface is somewhat uneven. The eastern part extends on to the Green Mountains, and in the western part are some fine tracts of meadow. Otter creek forms the western boundary; the other streams are Middlebury river, which touches upon the north part, and Leicester river, which waters the southern part. Lake Dunmore is about four miles long and from half to three fourths of a mile wide, and lies partly in this town and partly in Leicester. On the outlet of this lake are several falls, which afford some fine mill privileges, around which, near the south line, is a thriving little village. In the mountain east of Dunmore lake is a cavern, which consists of a large room, and is thought to have been inhabited by the Indians, as their arrows and other instruments have been found in it. There are two church edifices — Congregational and Methodist; nine school districts, and two post-offices — Salisbury and West Salisbury: also, an establishment for the manufacture of bloom iron, one woollen mill, and several other mills. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through Salisbury. Population, 1,027; valuation, \$267,563.

SANDGATE, in the western part of Bennington county, 103 miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 11, 1761, to John Park and sixty-five others. The settlement was begun in 1771 by a Mr. Bristol. The old records have been lost, and later ones so defaced that a good deal of obscurity is thrown upon the early history of the town and the date of its organization. Abner Hurd was town clerk from 1778 to 1800; and the organization probably took place before the first of these dates. The surface is very broken and mountainous. The most considerable elevations are Shettarack and Bald mountains in the northwest corner, Spruce and a part of Equinox mountain in the northeastern part, Red mountain in the southeast, and Swearing hill in the southwest part. The streams are all small, consisting of several branches of the Battenkill and of White creek, which afford but few mill privileges. There are two villages — East and West Sandgate; one church edifice at the East village, owned by the Congregationalists, but occupied by the Methodists; ten school districts and a post-office in the east part: also, four saw-mills and one clothes-pin factory. Population, 850; valuation, \$178,931.

SEARSBURGH, a small town in the southeasterly part of Bennington county, 112 miles from Montpelier, was granted and chartered to William Williams and twenty-five others, February 23, 1781, and was organized March 18, 1833. The town lies mostly on the Green Mountains, and contains 10,240 acres, the greater part of which is incapable of settlement. Deerfield river enters from Somerset, and crosses the east line into Wilmington. Haystack mountain lies partly in the northeast corner. The principal religious denomination is the Universalist. The town is divided into four school districts, and has one post-office. Population, 201; valuation, \$38,300.

SHAFTSBURY, in the western part of Bennington county, ninety-seven miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 20, 1761, to John Brown and sixty-one others; and the settlement was commenced about the year 1763. Among the early settlers may be mentioned Messrs. Cole, Willoughby, Clark, Doolittle, Waldo, and several families of Mattisons. The Hon. Jonas Galusha, late governor of Vermont, came into this town in the spring of 1775, and during the Revolutionary war was made captain of one of the two companies of militia raised here, the other being commanded by Captain Amos Huntington. Captain Huntington was taken prisoner at the battle of Hubbardton and sent to Canada, after which the two companies were united, and placed under the command of Captain Galusha, who fought at their head in the battle of Bennington. He was one of the supreme judges in the years 1807 and 1808; and was governor of the state nine years, from 1809 to 1819. He died at Shaftsbury in October, 1834.

Shaftsbury was organized some time before the Revolution, the first meeting on record being an adjourned one, April 13, 1779, when Thomas Mattison, Abner Rice, Reuben Ellis, Joshua Bates, Ichabod Cross, and Nathan Salisbury were chosen town officers. Rev. Caleb Blood, the pastor of the Charles Street Baptist church in Boston from 1807 to 1809, and subsequently of the Baptist church in Portland until his death in 1814, was previously settled in this town for many years; and Rev. Isaiah Mattison had a very long and successful pastorate here. The town contains by charter 23,040 acres. It lies between the Battenkill and Walloomscoik rivers, some tributaries of which rise here and afford several mill privileges. West mountain lies in the northern part, extending into Arlington. The soil is generally good. Iron ore of excellent quality is found here, of which large quantities have been conveyed to Bennington furnace; and a beautiful white marble has been extensively quarried. There are two villages — Shaftsbury and South Shaftsbury, each of which has a post office; two



meeting-houses — the Baptist at Shaftsbury, and the Universalist at South Shaftsbury; and seventeen school districts. The town is supplied with the necessary accommodations for travellers, and has several grist-mills, saw-mills, and paper-mills. The Western Vermont Railroad passes through Shaftsbury. Population, 1,896; valuation, \$565,201.

SHARON, in the north part of Windsor county, thirty-four miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 17, 1761, to John Taylor and sixty-one others. The settlement was commenced, about the year 1765, by emigrants from Connecticut; and, as near as can be ascertained, Robert Havens and family were the first who wintered in the township. At the time of the attack upon Royalton, in 1780, by the Indians, Sharon also suffered. A party of them which went down the east side of White river entered the house of Captain Gilbert, made captive his nephew Nathaniel Gilbert, and set out on their return, firing every building within sight, destroying the cattle and laying waste the fields and crops. On the west bank of the river they visited the houses of General Elias Stevens, Captain Ebenezer Parkhurst, and others, took some prisoners, and generally ordered the women and small children to flee, that they might not be impeded by feeble prisoners upon the march, as they were more intent upon plunder than capture. Another fact which should not pass without notice, although it must keep company with the tale of Indian barbarities through want of opportunity for better arrangement, is, that "Joe Smith," the founder of the Mormons, was born and spent his youthful days in Sharon.

The town was probably organized March 12, 1776, when Benjamin Spaulding was chosen town clerk, Joseph Parkhurst, Daniel Gilbert, and Joel Marsh, selectmen. It contains 23,795 acres. A part of Pomfret was annexed to it, October 20, 1807. The surface is very broken. White river runs through in an easterly direction, and affords a number of valuable mill privileges. There are also several smaller streams, on which mills are located. On the bank of White river, near the centre of Sharon, is a flourishing little village. The town has one church edifice — Congregational; twelve school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, twelve saw-mills, and one bobbin factory; and is traversed by the Vermont Central Railroad. Population, 1,240; valuation, \$463,673.

SHEFFIELD, in the north part of Caledonia county, thirty-five miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered to Stephen Kingsbury and seventy-three others, October 25, 1793. The settlement was commenced about the year 1792. The town was organ-

ized March 31, 1796, and contains 22,607 acres. It lies on the height of land which separates the waters flowing into the Connecticut river from those which flow into the lakes, and is watered by some of the head branches of the Passumpsic, and also of Barton river. In the north part are several small ponds, affording, with the rivers, several good mill privileges, some of which are occupied. Sheffield has one meeting-house — Baptist; sixteen school districts; and one post-office: also, one starch factory, and some trade in lumber and wool. Population, 797; valuation, \$185,683.

SHELBURNE, in the western part of Chittenden county, thirty-three miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 18, 1763, to Jesse Hallock and sixty-three others; and a small settlement was made prior to the Revolutionary war. The earliest inhabitants were two Germans by the names of Logan and Pottier, who commenced upon two points of land extending into Lake Champlain, which still bear the names "Pottier's point" and "Logan's point." The first settlers were employed principally in getting out lumber for the Canada market, and tradition says that Pottier and Logan were murdered for their money by a party of soldiers sent out from Montreal to protect them from the Indians. Before the commencement of the Revolution about ten families had settled along the lake shore, among whom were Thomas and Moses Pierson, who raised and harvested a large crop of wheat before the town was abandoned on the advance of the British up the lake. During the fall, the Messrs. Pierson, with that peculiar industry which braved all kinds of danger rather than permit any thing to be lost, came here with a number of hands for the purpose of threshing out the wheat; and, while engaged in this business, they were attacked by a party of Indians, and two of their number, Barnabas Barnum and Joshua Woodward, were killed. The others, however, after a pretty hot contest, in which twelve of the enemy were killed, succeeded in repelling the Indians and securing the grain. During the war the settlement was abandoned, but was recommenced immediately after its close. The early settlers came principally from Connecticut.

Shelburne was organized on the 29th of March, 1787, and contains 14,272 acres, exclusive of bays and ponds. This has been somewhat diminished by the act of November 9, 1848, annexing that part of the town east of Muddy brook and Shelburne pond to St. George. The soil is of an excellent quality. Laplot river is the principal stream, and affords some mill privileges. Shelburne pond is in the northeast part of the town, and covers about six hundred acres. There are two villages — Shelburne and Shelburne Falls; three church edifices — Methodist,

Protestant Methodist, and one occupied by Episcopalians and Congregationalists; thirteen school districts and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, one saw-mill, and two wagon shops. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through Shelburne. Population, 1,257; valuation, \$486,860.

SHELDON, in the central part of Franklin county, twenty-six miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 18, 1763, to Samuel Hungerford and sixty-three others, by the name of Hungerford, which was superseded November 8, 1792, by the present name. It was first settled, about the year 1790, by Colonel Elisha Sheldon and Samuel B. Sheldon, emigrants from Salisbury, Conn. The settlement advanced with considerable rapidity, and the town was organized in 1791. It contains 23,040 acres, and the surface is diversified with hills and valleys, the soil being generally good and easily cultivated. The only streams of consequence are Missisco river, which runs through from east to west, and Black creek, a considerable tributary of the Missisco, on the latter of which are some good mill privileges. Sheldon has one village, called Sheldon Creek; the Missisquoi Bank, with a capital of \$100,000; three church edifices — Episcopal, Congregational, and Union; fourteen school districts; and three post-offices — Sheldon, East Sheldon, and North Sheldon: also, two grist-mills, four saw-mills, one woollen factory, three tanneries, a wheelwright's and a cabinet-maker's shop, and one saddlery; also a dealer in cast-iron. Population, 1,814; valuation, \$411,378.

SHERBURNE, in the eastern part of Rutland county, forty-six miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, July 7, 1761, to Ezra Stiles, Samuel Yates, Benjamin Ellery, of Newport, R. I., and sixty-three others, by the name of Killington, which name was changed to the present one, November 4, 1800. The town was surveyed, and lotted into seventy equal shares, in 1774, by Simeon Stevens. Isaiah Washburn, in 1785, was the first settler who broke the solitude of the wilderness within the limits of this township.

Sherburne was organized in 1794, and contains 23,040 acres; and Parker's gore was annexed to the town, November 4, 1822. With the exception of a narrow strip along Quechee river, where there is some very good interval, the surface is very mountainous and broken, about a fourth part only being settled. The celebrated summit of the Green Mountains, called Killington peak, 3,924 feet above the sea, is situated in the south part. The pass over the mountains here has an altitude of 1,882 feet. Quechee river originates near the northwest corner, and,

after a southeasterly course for seven miles, enters Bridgewater. There are several tributaries to this river, which are sufficiently large for mills. There are also three natural ponds, covering about ten acres each, and from one of them issues a stream called Thundering brook, in which is a fall of some note. The rivers and brooks abound in trout, considerable quantities of which are annually caught, and find a ready market at the hotels and in the adjoining towns. Game also is abundant, consisting of wild-cats, sables, minks, muskrats, lynxes, foxes, and bears. Sherburne has one village, one Union meeting-house, ten school districts, and two post-offices—Sherburne and North Sherburne. Spruce shingles are extensively manufactured here, sufficient to supply the whole county: there are eight saw-mills. Population, 578; valuation, \$113,400.

SHOREHAM, in the southwest part of Addison county, on Lake Champlain, which separates it from Ticonderoga, N. Y., is fifty miles from Montpelier. It was chartered by New Hampshire to John Chandler and sixty-three others, October 8, 1761, and was settled, about the year 1766, by Colonel Ephraim Doolittle, Paul Moore, Marshal Newton, and others. They adopted the Moravian plan, and had all things common until the settlement was broken up during the Revolutionary war. On the return of peace, some of the former settlers again took up their residence, as well as others from Massachusetts and Connecticut, and the town was organized November 20, 1786. Hon. Silas H. Jenison, for five years (1836–40) governor of this state, was a native of this town, and died here September 30, 1849. Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., now the pastor of the First Presbyterian church in the city of Washington, and one of the most earnest, able, and eloquent pulpit orators in the country, was also born here. Shoreham contains 26,319 acres, the surface of which is level, and the soil good, producing fine crops of corn and grain. This may be considered one of the neatest and best farming towns in the State. A bed of iron ore has been opened in the eastern part. The only stream of consequence is Lemonfair river, affording some good mill privileges, which have been improved by the erection of three saw-mills, three shingle mills, and a grist-mill. There are two church edifices—Congregational and Universalist; the Newton Academy, incorporated in 1811; thirteen school districts; and two post-offices—Shoreham and Larrabee's Point; also, one butter-tub factory. Population, 1,601; valuation, \$725,455.

SHREWSBURY, in the eastern part of Rutland county, fifty-nine miles from Montpelier, was chartered September 4, 1761, to Samuel Ashley and sixty-three others, only one of whom ever settled here. Shrewsbury

was organized March 20, 1781, and contains forty-four square miles. It lies mostly on the Green Mountains, and in the eastern part is situated Shrewsbury Peak, which is one of the highest summits of the Green Mountain chain, being 4,086 feet above tide water. This elevation is often mistaken for Killington peak. Mill river runs through the southwest part, and Cold river through the north part, both of which are sufficiently large for mills. In the southerly part are two considerable ponds, known as Peal's and Ashley's. There are three villages — Shrewsbury, Cuttingsville, and North Shrewsbury, the first two of which have post-offices; three church edifices — Universalist, at Shrewsbury, Baptist at Cuttingsville, and Christian at North Shrewsbury; and fourteen school districts: also, six saw-mills and one grist-mill. Population, 1,268; valuation, \$430,000.

SOMERSET, in the western part of Windham county, is fourteen miles from Bennington. No records have been found to show when it was chartered; and it is supposed to have been settled as early as the towns contiguous to it. The ancient registers say that it once comprised 23,040 acres, a portion of which was annexed to Wardsboro', November 5, 1838. Somerset was organized November 19, 1792. It is situated on the east side of the Green Mountains near the head waters of Deerfield river, which runs through from north to south, and with which Moose branch, running along the western part, unites in Searsburgh. It is intersected in the easterly part by Mount Pisgah, having a north and south direction, which leaves only a strip of land of about a mile and a half wide fit for cultivation. The east part is again divided by a spur, so that the people upon one side have a more natural connection with West Wardsboro', and upon the other with West Dover. The westerly part of Somerset has been but recently settled; there are several saw-mills, and machinery for the manufacture of chair stuff and other wood-work. Besides these there is a saw-mill, a grist-mill, and a tannery in other parts of the town. There are six school districts, but no church edifice or post-office. Population, 321; valuation, \$82,743.

SOUTH HERO, in the south part of Grand Isle county, is bounded on all sides but the north by Lake Champlain. It was chartered, together with Grand Isle, North Hero, and Vineyard, to Ethan Allen, Samuel Herrick, and 363 others, October 27, 1779. North and South Hero were separated in 1788; and, in 1798, South Hero was divided, and the parts took the names of South Hero and Middle Hero, the latter of which has since been altered to Grand Isle. The settlement was commenced by Ebenezer Allen, who came here August 25, 1783, and the

town is supposed to have been organized as soon as, if not earlier than, 1788. It contains 9,065 acres, the surface being generally level, and the soil excellent. The basis of this, as well as of the other islands in Grand Isle county, is limestone of different varieties, but mostly of the compact kind. A bridge one mile and twenty rods in length, which cost \$25,000, connects Chittenden county with Grand Isle county. Agriculture is the exclusive occupation of the inhabitants. Among the citizens of South Hero was Rev. Asa Lyon, who graduated at Dartmouth College in 1790,—came here from Massachusetts about the year 1800, and was a member of congress for two years, from 1815–17. He died here April 4, 1841. The religious denominations are Congregationalists and Methodists, each of which has a meeting-house. There are four school districts, one academy, and one post-office. Population, 705; valuation, \$220,000.

SPRINGFIELD, in the southeast corner of Windsor county, is on the Connecticut river, which separates it from Charlestown, N. H., sixty-eight miles from Montpelier. It was chartered by New Hampshire to Gideon Lyman and sixty-one others, August 20, 1761. Among the first settlers were Simeon Stevens and the Hon. Lewis R. Morris. The surface is hilly, but it contains some fine alluvial flats, and is among the best agricultural towns in the state. The town contains several mills and manufactories, among which are a cotton mill, with a capital of \$20,000; a card factory, one shearing and brushing machine factory, one cassimere mill with a capital of \$25,000, one clothes-pin and bucket manufactory, and one shoe-peg manufactory with a capital of \$20,000. The most of these establishments are located at the centre village, which is situated at the falls in Black river, four and a half miles from its junction with the Connecticut. These falls (which have a descent of 110 feet in one eighth of a mile, fifty of which are nearly perpendicular) are regarded as one of the greatest curiosities in the state; and the village and all the scenery about it are highly romantic and interesting. In some places the channel through which the river passes does not exceed three yards in width, some of the way through a deep ravine walled in by perpendicular ledges of mica slate from sixty to eighty feet high. The production of silk has received considerable attention, and more than one thousand pounds of cocoons have been produced in a year. The town contains two villages—Springfield and North Springfield, each having a post-office; six church edifices—a Congregational, Wesleyan Methodist, Independent Methodist, Baptist, Advent, and Universalist; twenty school districts and one academy, the Springfield Wesleyan

Seminary. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad touches the south-west corner of the town. Population, 2,762; valuation, \$1,138,908.

• St. ALBANS, the capital of Franklin county, upon the shore of Lake Champlain, an arm of which separates it from North Hero, is forty-eight miles from Montpelier, and was chartered by New Hampshire, August 17, 1763, to Stephen Pomeroy and sixty-three others. Jesse Walden is supposed to have been the first civilized person who settled in St. Albans, having removed here during the Revolutionary war, and began improvements at the bay. There was no addition to the settlement till 1785, when Andrew Potter immigrated here, and from that time the settlement advanced rapidly. Among the earliest settlers were the families of Messrs. Potter, Morrill, Gibbs, Green, and Meigs, who came principally from the south part of the state, and from the other states of New England.

Among the men deserving of notice here may be mentioned Hon. Benjamin Swift, who represented the northwestern district of Vermont in congress for one term, from 1829-31; and was senator for six years ending in 1839. He died here November 11, 1847. Hon. Asa Aldis, an eminent lawyer, was chief justice of the supreme court in 1815-16; and died October 18, 1847. His son, Hon. Asa O. Aldis, is at present an associate justice of the supreme court. Rev. Worthington Smith, D. D., late president of the University of Vermont, died here February 13, 1856. Hon. Lawrence Brainerd was elected, in 1854, to serve out the unexpired term of the late Senator Upham, ending in 1855.

St. Albans was organized July 28, 1788, and contains 23,040 acres. Some small islands were annexed to it, — Johnson's, October 22, 1842, and Wood's, October 22, 1845. The soil is a dark loam, rich, and in good cultivation. There are no large streams nor good mill privileges. St. Albans village is a very flourishing place, containing a handsome park thirty by thirty-five rods in extent. The site is elevated, and slopes gently from the east. The Vermont and Canada Railroad passes through the westerly part of the village, and a large depot stands on the lot of ground belonging to the company. Near this is an extensive iron foundry, with facilities for the various kinds of iron casting; and a little to the southwest is a large car factory, designed chiefly for the manufacture of freight cars. There are no mills — either propelled by water or steam. The public buildings in this village are a court-house, an academy, four church edifices — Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist, and Roman Catholic — the last of which, it is estimated, will cost \$30,000. This is already occupied, although some time may be required

for its completion. There are two printing-offices, at which the Vermont Tribune and the St. Albans Messenger are printed. The village has a large number of mechanic shops and stores; also the Bank of St. Albans with a capital of \$50,000, and the Franklin County Bank with a capital of \$100,000.



St. Albans.

The first vessel that arrived at the city of New York from Lake Champlain through the Northern Canal was built and owned here. At the landing-place on Belamaqueen bay, three miles west of St. Albans village, is another village, called St. Albans Bay, as yet but of moderate extent, at which there is a Congregational church. Steamers have at different times run between this place and Burlington, and places on the opposite side of the lake. There are seventeen school districts and two post-offices — St. Albans and St. Albans Bay. Attention is given to the raising of cattle, horses, and sheep; and butter and cheese are made in large quantities. Population, in 1850, 3,467, now estimated at 4,500; valuation, \$1,089,393.

ST. GEORGE, in the central part of Chittenden county, twenty-eight miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 18, 1763, to Jesse Hallock and sixty-three others, and the first settler was Joshua Isham, who came here from Colchester, Conn., in 1784. The town was organized March 9, 1813. That part of Shelburne east of



Muddy brook and Shelburne pond was annexed to it November 9, 1848, and it now contains about 2,500 acres. The surface is very uneven, with considerable elevations; and the soil is loam, clay, and gravel. There are no streams of consequence, and no mill privileges. There is one church edifice, which is free to all denominations; and three school districts: also, one steam saw-mill. The post-office was discontinued March 4, 1857. Population, 127; valuation, \$37,550.

ST. JOHNSBURY, now the shire town of Caledonia county, thirty-seven miles from Montpelier, was granted on the 27th of October, and chartered November 1, 1786, to Jonathan Arnold and twenty-one others. James Adams and his son Martin Adams, with their families, commenced the settlement on "Benton's meadow," and Simeon Cole on the "Butler meadow," in 1786. The next year Dr. Jonathan Arnold, Dr. Joseph Lord, Barnabas Barker, and others moved in. The town was organized June 21, 1790, and contains 21,167 acres.

Among the distinguished men of St. Johnsbury may here be noticed Hon. Lemuel H. Arnold, who was a native of this town; removed to Rhode Island at an early age, and received a legal education, but left the profession for mercantile pursuits; was elected governor of Rhode Island in 1841 and 1842; was a member of the governor's council during the Dorr rebellion; member of congress from 1845 to 1847; and died in Kingston, R. I., June 27, 1852: Hon. Luke P. Poland, who was one of the supreme judges from 1848-50, and was again chosen in 1857: Hon. Erastus Fairbanks, the patentee and enterprising manufacturer of the balance-scales, and who was governor of this state in 1852 and 1853.

It is watered by the Passumpsic river, which runs through from north to south, and receives, just below the Plain village, the Moose river, a considerable stream from the northeast, and Sleeper's river, a smaller tributary from the northwest. The amount of available water power furnished by these streams within St. Johnsbury exceeds that of any other town in this part of the state.

The business of the place is divided among three villages. The Centre village, so called, lies upon the Passumpsic river, in the northerly part of the town, and has been of rapid growth. It does a prosperous business, and contains a grist-mill, saw-mill, tannery, and various shops. The Congregationalists, Methodists, and Universalists have each a meeting-house here. The East village, situated upon Moose river, in the east part, is the natural centre for the business of portions of St. Johnsbury, Waterford, Concord, Kirby, Victory, and Bradleyvale, and contains a meeting-house, a saw-mill, grist-mill, oil mill, tannery, and several mechanic shops. The pleasant village called the Plain, — containing four

meeting-houses — Methodist, Roman Catholic, and two Congregational; an academy, two public-houses, a high school, the Passumpsic Bank, with a capital of \$100,000, a printing-office, twenty stores, and the usual evidences of mechanical industry — is situated in the southerly part. There is here a large establishment, consisting of a blast furnace and a



St. Johnsbury Plain.

machine-shop for finishing every description of mill-gear and ordinary machinery, a carriage factory, and a factory for making sashes, doors, blinds, and other wood-work. On Sleeper's river is the extensive establishment of E. & T. Fairbanks and Co., for the manufacture of scales, which usually employs three hundred men upon annual wages of \$130,000; consumes 2,500 tons of pig-iron, two hundred of bar iron, thirty-eight of steel, twenty-six of copper, and 2,500 of anthracite coal; 100,000 bushels of charcoal, and 1,000,000 feet of lumber. The annual product of scales is about \$500,000. Up to July, 1857, there had been made 70,658 portable scales; 5,872 of hay, depot, and railroad scales; and 59,712 of counter, union, even balance, and drug-gist's scales. The town is divided into fourteen school districts, and has three post-offices — St. Johnsbury, St. Johnsbury Centre, and East St. Johnsbury; and is traversed by the Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad. Population, 2,758; valuation, \$1,449,292.

STAMFORD, in the centre of the south tier of towns in Bennington county, 116 miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, March 6, 1753, to Elisha Cook and fifty-five others. It was chartered again by that state, June 9, 1754, to Francis Bernard, Esq. and sixty-five others, by the name of New Stamford, which never seems to have been adopted by the people. The first settler, tradition says, was a man by the name of Raymond, who built a cabin against a large rock, situated about a mile south of the centre of the town, from which circumstance he ever after went by the name of Rock Raymond. Stamford was probably organized a short time previous to 1780; the first meeting on record was on March 14 of that year, when Israel and Amos Mead, Edward Higley, and Benjamin Tupper were chosen officers. It contains 23,040 acres, the surface being very uneven, and a considerable portion of it waste land. The south part is watered by some of the head branches of Hoosic river. In the north part are several natural ponds, the most important of which are Stamford and Sucker. The waters from this part run northerly into the Walloomskoik. Stamford has one village—Stamford Hollow; two church edifices—Baptist and Methodist; nine school districts, and one post-office; several saw-mills, and one tannery. Population, 833; valuation, \$193,087.

STARKEBOROUGH, in the northeast corner of Addison county, twenty-two miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7th, and chartered November 9th, in the year 1780, to Daniel Bridia and sixty-seven others. A part of Monkton was annexed to it, March 4, 1797. The settlement was commenced in April, 1788, by George Bidwell and Horace Kellogg with their families; and, about the same time, John Ferguson and Thomas V. Ratenburgh settled in that part of Monkton which has since been annexed to this township. Mr. Bidwell lived fifty-two years on the place where he settled, enduring at first many privations and hardships; but, by industry and economy, acquired a handsome landed property, and died April 13, 1840, aged eighty-four. He was, in his day, one of the principal men in town, and is still remembered with gratitude and affection.

Starksborough was organized in March, 1796; and its surface is very uneven. A mountain, called Hogback, lies along the west line, extending into Bristol; and another range extends through the central part from south to north, called East mountain, which divides the waters of Lewis creek from those of Huntington river. Here is a stream formed by the confluent waters of three springs, that are not more than twenty rods asunder. These springs unite, after running a short distance, and

form an excellent water power. There are two small villages, both situated near Lewis' creek, in the westerly part; four church edifices — one Methodist, two Friends', and one Union; sixteen school districts; and two post-offices — Starksborough and North Starksborough: also, two grist-mills, two shingle machines, two clapboard machines, two iron foundries, and thirteen saw-mills. Population, 1,400; valuation, \$235,000.

STOCKBRIDGE, in the northwestern part of Windsor county, thirty-six miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, July 21, 1761, to William Dodge and sixty-five others. The first settlers were Asa Whitcomb, Hon. Elias Keyes, John Durkee, and Joshua Bartlett, who came with their families in 1784 and 1785; after which the progress for some years was slow. The first organized town meeting was held March 27, 1792. Mr. Keyes erected, in 1786, the first grist-mill and saw-mill. The town contains 28,100 acres, the surface of which is generally level, and the soil adapted to the raising of grain and grass. The raising of stock engages a moderate share of attention. Steatite, or soapstone, is plentiful in the north part; but it is not of the best quality. White river runs through the northerly part, and receives, in its passage, Tweed river from the west. The best mill privileges are at the Great Narrows in White river, at which place the whole river is compressed into a channel but a few feet in width. There are two villages — Stockbridge and Gaysville; three church edifices — one Methodist, and two Union; seventeen school districts, and two post-offices — one at each of the villages: also, two woollen factories, one for the manufacture of doeskins, and the other for flannels; two grist-mills, seven saw-mills, and establishments for making hay-rakes, chairs, and casks. Population, 1,327; valuation, \$366,090.

STOW, in the south part of Lamoille county, fifteen miles in a straight line from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 8, 1763, to Joshua Simmons and sixty-three others; and the settlement was commenced about the year 1793. It was organized in March, 1797, and contains 23,040 acres, which was increased, November 14, 1855, by the addition of a part of the late town of Sterling. A considerable part of the surface is very level, and appears to be of alluvial formation. There are here some of the finest farms in the state, and they are surpassed by few in fertility. Nearly all the land is capable of being made into good farms, and there is little which is not suitable for cultivation. The township is watered by Waterbury river and its several branches, which afford good mill privileges. There are three

villages — the Centre, Mill, and Moscow; four church edifices — Congregational, Universalist, Methodist, and Baptist; nineteen school districts, and one post-office: also, eight saw-mills, five starch-mills, one grist-mill, and two carriage shops. Population, 1,771; valuation, 486,094.

STRAFFORD, in the south part of Orange county, thirty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 12, 1761, to Solomon Phelps and sixty-three others; and the settlement was begun just before the Revolutionary war. Several of the early settlers became Tories, left the country, and their property was confiscated. When Burgoyne was supposed to be advancing with his army in this direction in 1777, numbers of the inhabitants of this infant town are said to have become so panic stricken, or else so impregnated with loyalty, as to desert to the enemy.<sup>1</sup> The town was probably organized March 18, 1779, when the first officers were chosen; and contains 24,325 acres. The surface is uneven, but the soil is generally good. It is watered by a principal branch of the Ompompanoosuc, which affords several good mill privileges. In the northeasterly part is a pond, covering about one hundred acres, called Podunk, which is a place of considerable resort for amusement and angling. In the southeast corner of the town is an extensive bed of the sulphuret of iron, from which immense quantities of copperas are manufactured. For the prosecution of this business a company has been formed, called the Vermont Copperas Company, the owners, residing principally in Boston, having united the works here with a mine owned by them in Shrewsbury. The mine was discovered in 1793, by two men who were tapping sap-trees. The works were commenced by Mr. Eastman, but were not successfully prosecuted for some years. The stock was afterwards taken up in Boston by Messrs. Reynolds and the late Colonel Amos Binney. President Monroe visited the works in the summer of 1817. In 1827 the company employed from thirty to forty hands in doing the same work that has since been performed by one third of the number. For many years the business was continued under great discouragements and at a loss; and even in late years, the low duty imposed upon the foreign article has made it difficult to realize a profit from the home production. The company has two factory buildings, each about 267 feet in length by ninety-four in width. The proceeds from the sale of copperas have, in some years, amounted to nearly \$40,000, about one thousand tons being turned out. The copperas is used by most of the manufactories

<sup>1</sup> See article on Thetford, p. 917.

in New England, and is sent to all parts of the United States. It is said to be unsurpassed for dyeing purposes by any copperas in the market. The company are now engaged principally in manufacturing copper, by separating it from the copperas ore, employing about seventy-five hands. Hon. Justin S. Morrill, representative to congress from the second district, is a citizen of this town.

Strafford contains two pleasant villages. The upper one is handsomely built around a triangular common, the dwelling-houses, stores, shops, and a church forming the sides, and the round hill and old meeting-house the base. The lower village is known by the name of South Strafford. Strafford is divided into thirteen school districts; and the religious denominations are Baptists, Christians, Methodists, Congregationalists, and Universalists. There are four meeting-houses, one belonging to the Congregationalists, and the others Union, or free; thirteen school districts, and three post-offices — Strafford, South Strafford, and Copperas Hill: also, several mills, and one large establishment, employing twenty hands, for the manufacture of bedsteads, and spring-bottoms for beds. Population, 1,540; valuation, \$574,553.

STRATTON, in the western part of Windham county, ninety miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, July 30, 1761, to Isaac Searle and sixty-two others. It was settled principally by emigrants from Massachusetts, among whom were Timothy Morsman, in 1784, and others of his name and by the name of Patch, who arrived soon afterwards. The town was organized in 1788, and contains 23,040 acres; and it was increased, October 28, 1799, by the annexation of Stratton gore. The surface is mountainous in a remarkable degree, and hence has but very few settlers. It is watered by the Bald mountain branch of West river, and by Deerfield river, on which are erected four saw-mills. There are two natural ponds, one in the south part, called Carter's, and the other in the northwestern part, called Jones's, each covering about one hundred acres. The religious denominations are Free-will Baptists and Methodists, who occupy one meeting-house. There are five school districts, and one post-office. Population, 286; valuation, \$60,851.

SUDBURY, in the north part of Rutland county, forty-three miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 6, 1763, to Captain Silas Brown and sixty-three others, and contains 16,740 acres. The first settlement was made by Timothy Miller about 1780, and others who came soon after, principally from Connecticut. Some

settlements, which were attempted some five years earlier, had been abandoned. The town was organized March 16, 1789. The surface is uneven, and a high ridge of land extends through the centre from north to south. It is well watered by Otter creek, Hubbardton pond, and several small streams. On one or two of these streams, mills have been erected. There are two villages — North Sudbury and Centre Sudbury; two church edifices — Congregational and Methodist; five school districts, and one post-office: also, a first-class summer boarding-house having extensive accommodations, and being largely patronized by visitors from Atlantic cities. The American Marble Company, with a reputed capital of \$500,000, have opened a marble quarry in this town at an expense of \$75,000, but are not operating at present. Population, 794; valuation, \$238,354.

SUNDERLAND, in the eastern part of Bennington county, eighty-seven miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, July 30, 1761, to Isaac Searle and sixty-one others. Messrs. Brownson, Bradley, Warren, Evarts, Chipman, and Webb, emigrants from Connecticut, commenced the settlement in 1766. Sunderland was the home, during the Revolutionary struggle, of the celebrated Ethan Allen. It was in connection with his residence here that an incident<sup>1</sup> has been preserved

<sup>1</sup> On the 31st of May, 1780, two daughters of Eldad Taylor, of Sunderland, Keziah, aged seven, and Betsey, aged four years, wandered into the woods. Not returning, the parents became alarmed and commenced a search, which, with the aid of a few neighbors, was continued through the night without success. The next day the search was continued by large numbers from this and the neighboring towns, and was continued till the middle of the afternoon of the third day, when it was relinquished, and the people who had been out collected together with the view of returning to their homes. Among those was *one* who thought the search should not be abandoned, and this was ETHAN ALLEN. He mounted a stump, and soon all eyes were fixed upon him. In his laconic manner he pointed to the father and mother of the lost children, — now petrified with grief and despair, — bade each individual present, and especially every parent, to make the case of these parents his own, and then say whether he could go contentedly to his home without making one further effort to save those dear little ones who were, probably, now alive, but perishing with hunger, and spending their last strength in crying to father and mother to give them something to eat. As he spake his giant frame was agitated, and the tears rolled down his cheeks, and in the assembly of several hundred men but few eyes were dry. "I'll go, I'll go" — was at length heard from every part of the crowd. They betook themselves to the woods, and before night the lost children were restored in safety to the arms of the distracted parents. It appeared that the first night they laid down at the foot of a large tree, and the second they spent upon a large rock. They obtained plenty of drink from the stream, but were very weak for the want of food. They, however, both survived, and Betsey, the younger, is now (July, 1842), the wife of Captain John Munson, of Williston. The elder was the wife of John Jones, and died some years ago at Williston. *Thompson's Vermont*, Part III. p. 169.

illustrative of the tenderness and humanity of this rough and stern warrior.

Sunderland was organized in 1769, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is very uneven; but on the Battenkill river are some fine alluvial flats. The soil consists of alluvium, loam, and marl. Near the foot of the Green Mountains, in the southern part, the sulphate of iron is found in considerable quantities; lead ore has also been found. Water is supplied by the Battenkill river, and Roaring branch, which unites with the Battenkill in Arlington. On this stream are several excellent situations for mills and other machinery. There are four villages—North Sunderland, Piety Hill, Mount Pleasant, and Sunderland Borough; two church edifices—Congregational and Methodist; four school districts, and one post-office: also, one establishment for the manufacture of squares and edge tools; one grist-mill, fourteen saw-mills, two machine-shops, three manufactories of washboards, clothespins, and mop-heads. The Western Vermont Railroad passes through Sunderland. Population, 479; valuation, \$140,824.

SUTTON, in the north part of Caledonia county, thirty-eight miles from Montpelier, was chartered by the name of Billymead, February 6, 1782, to Jonathan Arnold and eleven others; and in 1812 the name was altered to the one it now bears. The settlement was entered upon, about the year 1791, by a Mr. Hackett, who was soon after joined by families from Rhode Island and Connecticut. The town was organized in 1794, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is generally even, and considerable tracts of it so low and wet as to be incapable of cultivation. It is watered by two large branches, which unite near the south line of Burke, and join the Passumpsic river in Lyndon. There are several ponds, of which Fish pond, lying in the northeast part, is the largest, covering about two hundred acres. There are two villages—Sutton Corner and Sutton Hollow; two church edifices, occupied by three denominations—Free-will Baptist, Universalist, and Methodist; thirteen school districts, and a post-office: also, a saw-mill, tannery, and an extensive establishment for making oil and essences. Population, 1,001; valuation, \$243,600.

SWANTON, Franklin county, on the shore of Lake Champlain, fifty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, October 17, 1763, to Josiah Goodrich and sixty-three others. Before the conquest of Canada by the English, the French and Indians had quite a settlement at Swanton Falls, consisting of fifty huts. They had cleared some land, on which they raised corn and vegetables, and had built a church,



also a saw-mill,—the channel cut through the rocks to supply the water for which still remains. This place was occupied by the Indians till the commencement of the Revolution. The first permanent settlers were John Hilliker and family, who arrived about the year 1787, and were soon joined by others.

Among the citizens of Swanton was Hon. James Fisk, who was a member of congress from 1805 to 1809, and 1811 to 1815. In 1812 he was appointed, by President Madison, judge of the territory of Indiana, but declined the office. In 1815 and 1816 he was a judge of the supreme court of this state. In 1817 he was chosen United States senator, but resigned at the end of one year; and was afterwards, for eight years, collector of customs in this state. His death occurred here, December 1, 1844.

The town was organized in 1790, and contains 23,040 acres. Along the Missisco river the land is low and moist; but, further back, it becomes more elevated, dry, and sandy. In the southern part the soil is gravelly, and in the northern part marshy. The town is well watered,—Missisco river and McQuam creek being the principal streams. Besides these, there are several streams which flow in different directions. Bog-iron ore of an excellent quality is found in the north part of the town; but, as yet, little of it has been wrought, the principal portion being transported to the furnaces in Sheldon, Highgate, and Vergennes. Marble also, of a fine quality, is found in abundance. It covers an area of over three hundred acres, extending to an unknown depth, and is generally found at a distance varying from two to eight feet below the surface. It is detached from its original bed in large blocks by blasting, and these are conveyed about half a mile to the mills at Swanton falls, where they are sawn into slabs or pieces of any required dimensions. At Swanton falls a flourishing village has sprung up, situated on both sides of the Missisco river, six miles from its mouth. The ground on which the village is built is elevated, pleasant, and healthy. There are five church edifices—two Congregational, one Methodist, one Baptist, and one Roman Catholic; seventeen school districts; the Swanton Falls Academy; one newspaper—the Journal; the Union Bank, with a capital of \$75,000; and two post-offices—Swanton and Swanton Falls: also, a grist-mill, saw-mill, a forge, marble and tile mills, tin, sheet-iron, and copperas works, and a number of small mechanic shops. The Vermont and Canada Railroad passes through Swanton. Population, 2,824; valuation, \$626,962.

THETFORD, in the southeast corner of Orange county, on the Connecticut river, thirty-four miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New

Hampshire, August 12, 1761, to John Phelps and sixty-one others. The first settlement was made in 1764 by John Chamberlin, familiarly known as "Old Quail John," from Hebron, Conn. His daughter Susannah was born on the 13th of December the same year, and was the first native. During 1765 the Baldwin and Hosford families removed to Thetford. The town was organized May 10, 1768, containing 26,260 acres; and Abner Howard was the first clerk. Rev. Asa Burton, who came with his father from Connecticut to the adjoining town of Norwich in 1766, and graduated at Dartmouth College in 1777; came here in 1778, was ordained the next year, and continued as the pastor of the first Congregational church until his death, May 1, 1836,—fifty-seven years.

It cannot be doubted that the people of Thetford had common patriotism. One stain, however, rests upon their history,—that, when apprehension was felt quite generally that Burgoyne would march with his army through this section on his way to Boston, no less than thirty men from the then small towns of Stratford and Thetford deserted, and went over to the enemy. By this cowardly act no less than twenty families, and over four hundred cattle and sheep, were deprived of protection. By the kindness, however, of the people of Lyme, they were conveyed across the river, and made comfortable by shelter and security.<sup>1</sup>

The surface is uneven, and in some parts rocky. The town is watered by Ompompanoosuc river and one of its branches, which afford fine mill privileges. Half of Fairlee lake lies in the north part, and there are several smaller bodies of water. There are six villages—Thetford, North Thetford, East Thetford, Post Mills, Union Village, and Thetford Centre, the first five having post-offices; four church edifices—one Congregational at Thetford, and one at Post Mills, Free-will Baptist at Thetford Centre, and Methodist at Union Village; also a Methodist society at North and East Thetford, without a place for public worship; and seventeen school districts. Thetford Academy was incorporated and established in 1819. It is not strictly sectarian, although the prevailing influence is Congregational. There are three buildings, the central one containing five school-rooms and a hall, the other two containing the lodging-rooms of the students, the present number of whom is about two hundred. There are also one woollen mill, and manufactories of carriages, scythes, and paper, as well as a slate quarry, worked by the Howard Slate Company. The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad passes along the east line of the town. Population, 2,016; valuation, \$635,671.

<sup>1</sup> Hall's Eastern Vermont, p. 302.

TINMOUTH is situated in the southerly part of Rutland county, seventy miles from Montpelier, and was chartered by New Hampshire, September 15, 1761, to Joseph Hooker and sixty-three others. It was first settled, about the year 1770, by Thomas Peck and John McNeal. On the 17th of February, 1777, the inhabitants had a meeting, and "voted not to raise money towards paying Seth Warner's regiment." Such a vote as this indicates, either that a majority of tories were present at the meeting, or that their penuriousness triumphed over their patriotism. The following oath of allegiance was administered to the freemen of the town, at a meeting held soon after the passage of the above vote:— "You each of you swear, by the living God, that you believe for yourselves, that the King of Great Britain hath not any right to command, or authority in or over the states of America, and that you do not hold yourselves bound to yield any allegiance or obedience to him within the same, and that you will, to the utmost of your power, maintain and defend the freedom, independence, and privileges of the United States of America, against all open enemies, or traitors, or conspirators, whatsoever; so help you, God."

Distinguished among the citizens was Hon. Nathaniel Chipman, who was born at Salisbury, Conn., in 1752,—graduated at Yale College in 1777, soon after which he came to Vermont. He was chosen a judge of the supreme court in 1786, and chief justice in 1789; and was appointed in the last-named year one of the commissioners to adjust the controversy with New York. In 1790 he was appointed a commissioner to negotiate for the admission of Vermont into the Union, and in 1791 received from President Washington the appointment of judge of the United States District Court for this state. He was again chosen chief justice in 1796; also one of a committee to revise the statutes, a large share of which duty fell upon him alone. The laws, published in 1797 as the result of this labor, are spoken of as the best compilation which the people of Vermont has had. He was a United States senator from 1797 to 1803; and again chief justice in 1813 and 1814. In 1815 he was chosen professor of law in Middlebury College, in which office he continued until his death, February 15, 1843.

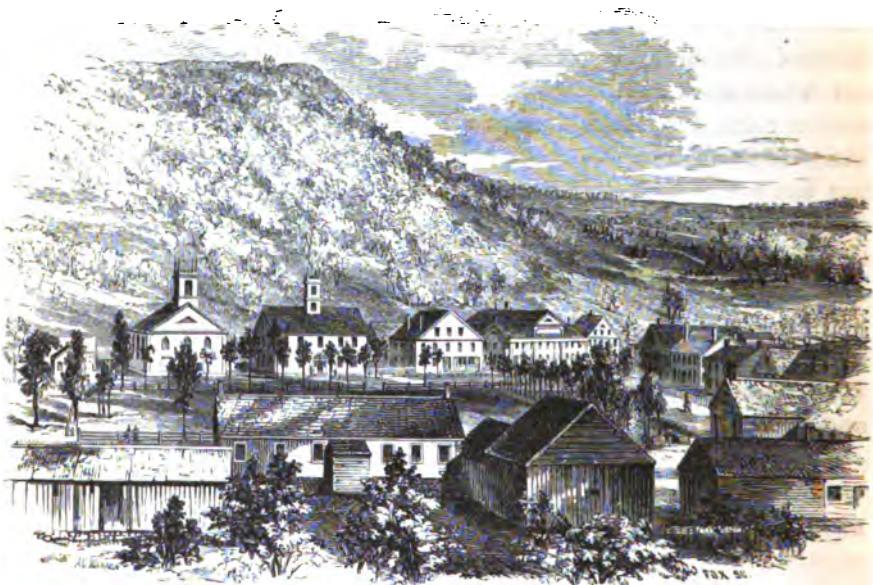
Tinmouth was organized March 8, 1774, and contained originally 23,040 acres, which have been reduced by annexation to Middletown, October 28, 1784, and to Wallingford, October 21, 1793, to about 17,000 acres. The surface is not very even—two ranges of mountains extending through it from south to north, one on each side of Furnace brook. Several quarries of fine marble have been opened, and iron ore is found in abundance in several places. Furnace brook, or Little West river, rises from a small pond in the south part of the town, and runs nearly

north through Clarendon, uniting with Otter creek in Rutland. Poultney river waters the western part. The principal religious society is made up of Congregationalists, who own the only church edifice; there are, however, a few Episcopalians and some Methodists. The town contains seven school districts, and one post-office; also, four saw-mills, and one stonecutter's shop. Population, 717; valuation, \$280,975.

TOPSHAM, in the north part of Orange county, nineteen miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 17, 1763, to George Frost and eighty-one others; and the settlement was begun, about the year 1781, by Thomas Chamberlain, Thomas McKeith, and Samuel Farnum, who were joined, in 1783-4, by Robert Mann, Samuel Thompson, John Crown, and Lemuel Tabor. Most of the first settlers came from New Hampshire. Tabor built the first saw-mill in 1784, and the first grist-mill in 1787. He was the first town clerk; and the office was held by him for thirty-three years, and by his son Levi succeeding him for twenty-three years, to 1848. Topsham was organized March 15, 1790, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is very uneven, and much of it stony. It is watered principally by the head branches of Wait's river, several of which are considerable mill streams. There are two villages — East Topsham and West Topsham; three Union meeting-houses, occupied by Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, and Free-will Baptists; nineteen school districts, and three post-offices — Topsham, West Topsham, and Wait's River: also, ten saw-mills, one carding and cloth-dressing mill, three grist-mills, two tanneries, and two planing machines. Population, 1,668; valuation, \$429,449.

TOWNSHEND, in the central part of Windham county, ninety miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 30, 1753, to John Hazeltine and sixty three others; but, for reasons not now apparent, remained for some years unvisited and uninhabited. The first settlement was made in 1761 by Joseph Tyler, from Uxbridge, Mass., and a few others, whose names do not appear on the record. John Hazeltine came here soon after Mr. Tyler, and from the same town; he had been chiefly instrumental in obtaining the town charter, and, before any settlements had been commenced, bought out so large a part of the lands of the proprietors, that he owned more than half of the town. The township was never regularly surveyed and lotted, and no plan of it was ever drawn; each proprietor was to have the privilege of locating his right whenever he pleased, by getting the same surveyed and recorded. Its boundary lines remained unchanged until October 29, 1840, when there

was a large addition by the annexation of Acton, making its present area about 30,000 acres. The early settlers labored hard in clearing up their lands, and had scarcely made a good beginning, when the war of the Revolution commenced. Through the activity of Colonel John Hazeltine, fifty-one persons signed an agreement on the 12th of July, 1775, binding themselves to maintain and disseminate the principles of American liberty, and adopting, as their rules of action, the resolutions passed and promulgated by the continental congress in the preceding year. The association was joined by all the citizens then in the place. Those out of town were Samuel Fletcher, Benjamin and Oliver Moredock,



Townshend.

Aaron Johnson, Samuel Parkis, Thomas Barns, and Ebenezer Burt, who were "in the service at Roxbury, under General Washington." A company was raised here in 1776, and marched, under command of Captain Fletcher, to Ticonderoga, and thence to Bennington. On their way thither, with a party of thirteen he attacked and routed a detachment of forty British, killed one, and took seven prisoners. General Fletcher came here from Grafton, Mass., and settled in 1767, at the age of twenty-two years. In 1775 he entered the army as an orderly sergeant — was in the battle of Bunker Hill — and, being discharged the following January, he returned to Townshend, where he received the commission of a militia captain; he was an active politician, and rendered essential service to the people of Vermont in establishing their state

government. He remained in the service until the surrender of Burgoyne, when he returned home, and was promoted through the various military grades to that of major-general. He represented the town for many years in the legislature, and was eleven times elected a member of the executive council. In 1788, he was appointed high sheriff for the county, and held the office for eighteen years; and for three years was associate judge of the county court. His death occurred September 15, 1814.

There is no certainty as to the time when Townshend was organized. The first meeting for the transaction of business (perhaps a proprietors' meeting) was held May 30, 1771, but it does not appear from record that any town clerk was elected until 1779. William Young was the first incumbent of that office. A small church was organized in 1777, consisting mostly of females, over which a Mr. Dudley was ordained pastor, but after three years he was dismissed, soon after which the church became extinct. In 1790, however, they built a meeting-house, but had no settled minister until 1815.

Whiskey distilled from potatoes was a favorite beverage in this section in the early part of the present century, and such was the demand for it, that two distilleries were erected, one by Major Ezekiel Ransom in 1810, and the other by Captain Ebenezer Brigham in 1811. They flourished for a time, but an enlightened public opinion eventually made the business disreputable as well as unprofitable, and it was abandoned.

The surface of the town is very broken, there being many high and very steep hills. West river flows through the town from northwest to southeast, its average width being about ten rods; along its banks are some highly cultivated and fertile meadows, varying from one hundred to two hundred rods in width, and making some of the best farms in this section of the state. The town is also watered by several brooks, some of which afford good mill privileges. There are two villages — Townshend and West Townshend, each having a post-office; three church edifices — Baptist and Congregational at Townshend, and a Congregational at West Townshend; the Leland Classical and English School, incorporated October 31, 1834, a very flourishing and popular institution; and twelve school districts: also, several saw-mills and grist-mills, and such general mercantile and mechanical business as is found in an agricultural community. Population, 1,354; valuation, \$487,144.

Troy, in the north part of Orleans county, forty-seven miles from Montpelier, was granted in two separate gores, — the south half being chartered to John Kelly of New York City, October 13, 1792, and the

north half to Samuel Avery. Gold and silver mines on the Kelly grant were reserved to the state. It was settled, about the year 1800, by emigrants from different towns on the Connecticut river; but, during the last war with Great Britain, most of the inhabitants left the place. A part of them, however, returned after the war, and the settlement has since advanced with considerable rapidity. The two grants were incorporated into a town by the name of Missisquoi, October 28, 1801, under which it was organized March 30, 1802; and the same was changed to Troy, October 26, 1803. It is eleven and a half miles long from north to south, and about five and two miles respectively upon the north and south lines, comprising within its limits 23,000 acres. The surface is generally level, and along the river are tracts of interval of considerable extent and fertility. The soil is for the most part a strong loam, suitable for grass and most kinds of grain. Abundance of water is supplied by Missisco river, and by several of its tributaries. There are falls on the Missisco, in the north part, where the descent over a ledge of rocks is about seventy feet. These and the deep, still water below present a grand and interesting spectacle, when viewed from a rock which projects over them one hundred and twenty feet in perpendicular height. An immense mass of iron ore of an excellent quality was some time since discovered a short distance to the eastward of Missisco river. A furnace and forge have been erected, which produce annually about four hundred tons of cast iron and several tons of wrought iron. These works are carried on by the Boston and Troy Iron Company. There are four church edifices — Methodist, Congregational, Baptist, and Second Advent; twelve school districts, and the Missisquoi Valley Academy. There are two villages — North Troy and South Troy, with a post-office at each. At the north village are a grist-mill, saw-mill, woollen factory, machine-shop, two blacksmith's shops, a sash, blind, and door manufactory, and three shoe-making shops: at the south village are two wheelwright's, two carpenter's, and a blacksmith's, a saddler's, and a shoemaker's shop. Population, 1,008; valuation, \$270,498.

TUNBRIDGE, in the south part of Orange county, twenty-six miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, September 3, 1761, to Abraham Root, Obadiah Noble, and sixty-three others; and the settlement was entered upon, about the year 1776, by James Lyon, Moses Ordway, and others, emigrants from New Hampshire. James Lyon, Jr., born January 25, 1780, was the first native. About the year 1787, the ingress of the inhabitants was so great that grain could not be procured for their support, and they were reduced almost to a state of starvation.

It was in this town, close to the Royalton line, that John and Abijah Hutchinson were captured at the house of the former, which was then burned by the Indians, in October, 1780, upon their predatory expedition to this and adjoining towns. Peter Button, who was killed by them in Royalton, was also a resident of this town.<sup>1</sup> The town was organized March 21, 1786, and contains 23,040 acres. The surface is uneven and broken, and the elevations are abrupt. The soil is generally a deep, rich loam, and along the first branch of White river, which waters the town, is some interval. On this stream are several very good mill-seats. There is a medicinal spring here, which has been resorted to by persons afflicted with cutaneous complaints, with beneficial results. There are three small villages situated on the first branch of White river, called the Centre, North Village, and South Village, the former of which is the largest; four church edifices — Methodist, Congregational, and two Free-will Baptist; nineteen school districts, and the same number of schools, besides a select school during a part of the year; and two post-offices — Tunbridge and North Tunbridge: also, three grist-mills, eight saw-mills, four black or iron smiths, one of whom manufactures augers and edge-tools quite extensively; one iron foundry and finishing shop, three carriage shops, one rake factory, one harness shop, and three shoe shops. Some attention is given to dairying and the raising of stock. Population, 1,786; valuation, \$516,211.

UNDERHILL, in the northeastern part of Chittenden county, twenty-six miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 8, 1763, to Joseph Sackett, Jr., and sixty-four others, and the settlement was begun about the year 1786, the first surveys having been made in 1785. The town was organized March 9, 1795, and contained by charter 23,040 acres; this was increased November 15, 1839, by the annexation of the western part of Mansfield. William Barney was the first representative, in 1795; and the first town clerk, holding the office from 1795 to 1811. Abner Eaton, Archibald Dixon, and Cyrus Stevens were the first selectmen. A large portion of the surface is very uneven; and the streams are all small, the most important being the head branches of Brown's river, which rise in the south part. The inhabitants are mostly farmers, and the raising of stock is the leading pursuit. Oats, corn, and potatoes are raised in sufficient quantities for home consumption, and to some extent for export. There are two ordinary villages — Underhill Flat and Underhill Centre; two small villages — Pleasant Valley and Stevensville; five church edifices — two occu-

<sup>1</sup> See article on Royalton, ante, p. 889.



pied by the Congregationalists, one by the Methodists, one by the Roman Catholics, and one by the Methodists and Free-will Baptists; thirteen school districts; two incorporated educational institutions — the Green Mountain Academy and the Bell Institute; and three post-offices — Underhill, Underhill Centre, and Pleasant Valley: also, nine saw-mills, one grist-mill, one starch factory, and an establishment at Stevensville for the manufacture of measures, cheese-boxes, and butter-tubs. Population, 1,599; valuation, \$317,003.

VERGENNES, Addison county, the only city in Vermont, is twenty-one miles from Burlington and thirty-five from Montpelier, and lies at the head of navigation on Otter creek. It was formed of territory taken from Ferrisburgh, New Haven, and Panton, being four hundred by 480 rods in extent, having an area of 1,200 acres, and was incorporated as a city by the general assembly, October 23, 1788. The first meeting under its charter was held March 12, 1789; and the first settlement within the limits of the city was made in 1766, by Donald McIntosh, a native of Scotland, who was in the battle of Culloden. He came to this country with General Wolfe's army, during the French war, and died July 14, 1803, aged eighty-four years. The subsequent settlers were principally from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and the south parts of this state.

Vergennes is surrounded by a rich, fertile country. Its trade has always been considerable, and is gradually increasing. A regular line of boats runs between this place and Troy, N. Y., which are engaged in the transportation of freight. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through the city, and at this point large numbers of live stock, and considerable quantities of wool, butter, cheese, hay, and other articles, are sent by this conveyance to the Boston market. There are ten stores in the city, doing the usual variety of business transacted in country villages. The manufactories are as follows: one iron foundery, four forge fires, one flouring-mill, three saw-mills, one establishment for the manufacture of Sampson's patent scales, one hone factory, and an establishment for the manufacture of patent wire-tooth hay-rakes on wheels, revolving rakes, drag and hand-rakes, harrows, chisel and auger handles.

The city is watered by Otter creek, which affords some of the finest stands for mills in the country, and is navigable for large vessels from Lake Champlain to the city, a distance of about eight miles. The shore of this creek is very bold, and vessels of three hundred tons' burden may receive and discharge their cargoes at almost any spot with the assistance of a ten-foot plank. The flotilla commanded by the

brave McDonough, which captured the British fleet in Plattsburg bay on the 11th of September, 1814, was fitted out at this place. A United States arsenal was established here in 1828, and is the only military establishment of the United States within the limits of Vermont. It contains a large amount of ordnance and munitions of war belonging to the general government, and a portion belonging to the state government. The buildings, grounds, ordnance stores, tools, and materials belonging to the United States, are valued at \$107,576.

Vergennes has but one village, about three fourths of which lies on the east side of Great Otter creek. There are three church edifices — Congregational, Episcopal, and Methodist Episcopal; two school districts — the eastern and western, the former of which has three schools, and the latter one; a classical school, one newspaper (The Independent), one bank with a capital of \$100,000, and one post-office. Population, 1,378; valuation, \$416,106.

VERNON, in the southeast corner of Windham county, upon the Massachusetts line, is about 132 miles from Montpelier. It constituted a part of Hinsdale, N. H. (which was chartered September 5, 1753), till Vermont became a separate state, when it became the town of Hinsdale in Vermont, which name was altered to Vernon, October 21, 1802. This was one of the first settled towns in the state; but the precise time of its settlement is not known. The earliest inhabitants were emigrants from Northampton and Northfield, Mass. Captain Amos Tute, a man of wealth and influence, was very early an inhabitant. Fort Dummer in Brattleborough, Hinsdale's fort in Hinsdale, and Bridgeman's fort in this town, were all insufficient to shield the inhabitants from the incursions of the Indians. On the 24th of June, 1746, a party of twenty Indians came to Bridgeman's fort, attacked a number of men who were at work in a meadow, killed William Robbins and James Parker, wounded Mr. Gilson and Patrick Roy, and made prisoners of Daniel Howe and John Beeman. Howe killed one of the Indians before he was taken. In 1747, the Indians burnt Bridgeman's fort, killed several persons, and made others prisoners.

This place again received a hostile visit on the 27th of July, 1755, when Caleb Howe, Hilkiah Grout, and Benjamin Gaffield were waylaid and fired upon by a party of Indians, as they were returning from their labor in the field. Howe was killed, Gaffield was drowned in attempting to ford the river, and Grout escaped unhurt. The Indians then proceeded to Bridgeman's fort, which had been rebuilt, and to which they gained admission by having in some way got a knowledge of the signal to be given at the gate, where they made prisoners of the

families of these three men, being all the persons in the fort. These were Mrs. Jemima Howe and her children, Mary, Submit Phips, William, Moses, Squire, and Caleb Howe, and a babe six months old, Mrs. Submit Grout and her children, Hilkiah, Asa, and Martha, and Mrs. Gaffield with her daughter Eunice,—fourteen persons. They were all taken to Canada, where they were doomed to suffer a long and cruel captivity. Mrs. Howe, after a series of adventures, was finally redeemed with three of her children, through the intervention of Colonel Peter Schuyler, Major (afterwards General) Israel Putnam, and other gentlemen who had become interested for her welfare, on account of the peculiarity of her sufferings, and the patience with which she had borne them. Mrs. Howe, who was afterwards known as the "Fair Captive," was, on her return, married to Captain Amos Tute. Of the other children, the youngest died, another was given to Governor Vaudreuil of Canada, and the two remaining ones, who were daughters, were placed in a convent in that province. One of these was afterwards carried to France, where she married a Frenchman named Cron Lewis, and the other was subsequently redeemed by Mrs. Howe, who made a journey to Canada for the express purpose. At the close of three years' captivity, Mrs. Gaffield was ransomed and went to England. The fate of her daughter Eunice is uncertain. A petition was presented, by Zadock Hawks, to the general court of Massachusetts, October 9, 1758, praying them to use their influence to obtain the release of Mrs. Grout, the petitioner's sister. At that time she and her daughter were residing with the French near Montreal, and her two sisters were with the Indians at St. Francis; and they were probably soon released, as one of the sons, a few years later, was a resident of Cumberland county. Startwell's fort was built here in 1740, and is now standing in the north part, having been till recently occupied as a dwelling-house. It is probably the oldest house now standing in the state.

The records were accidentally burnt in 1797, and therefore the time of the organization cannot be ascertained. It was probably, however, before the Revolution. A large part of the surface of Vernon is mountainous, and the soil is dry, stony, and thin, except some small tracts of interval along Connecticut river, which are very fertile. Between the meadows and the hills is a considerable tract of pitch-pine plain, which has been wont to produce good crops of rye. The streams are all small. There are two villages—Vernon and South Vernon; one Union meeting-house; nine school districts, and one post-office: also, two grist-mills and four saw-mills. At South Vernon is the junction of the Ashuelot and Connecticut River Railroads. Population, 821; valuation, \$292,780.

**VERSHIRE**, near the centre of Orange county, twenty-five miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered August 3, 1781, to Abner Seelye and sixty-four others. The settlement was commenced by a Mr. Knight, in the year 1779. Rosanna Titus was the first native, born January 1, 1780. Thompson says the town was organized in 1783. Jonathan Maltby was first town clerk, and Joel Walker was, in 1785, the first representative. Vershire contains 21,961 acres. The surface is very uneven, and in some parts stony. It is watered by the head branches of Ompompanoosuc river, which are here small. There is a large copper mine in Vershire, operating under an act of incorporation from this state, the capital stock being principally owned by persons in New York. From sixty to one hundred men are constantly employed at the mine. There are three church edifices — Congregational, Baptist, and Free-will Baptist; fifteen school districts, and one post-office: also, one starch-mill, one tannery, a grist-mill, several saw-mills, and the usual mechanic shops. Population, 1,071; valuation, \$368,746.

**VICTORY**, in the southwest part of Essex county, about forty-five miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered September 6, 1781, to Ebenezer Fisk and sixty-four others. The first settler was James Elliot, who arrived in the year 1811. Curtis Elliot was the first native, and Loomis Wells the first representative and town clerk. The town was organized May 3, 1841, and contained by charter 23,040 acres, which was increased November 6, 1856, by the annexation of a part of the late town of Bradleyvale. It is watered by Moose river, which runs through from northeast to southwest. Victory has one village, called Moose River Village; and four school districts: also, a starch-factory, and five saw-mills engaged in the manufacture of lumber. Population, 168; valuation, \$70,825.

**WAITSFIELD**, in the southwesterly part of Washington county, was granted and chartered February 25, 1782, to Roger Enos, Benjamin Wait, and sixty-eight others, and contained by survey in 1788, an area of 23,850 acres. The settlement was commenced in 1789 by General Benjamin Wait, who was soon followed by several other families. In 1791 the population amounted to sixty-one persons, and the town was organized March 25, 1794, under its present name, which was given as a compliment to the first settler. Some Indian relics were found by the inhabitants, such as cooking utensils, beads, tomahawks, trinkets, and weapons associated with an Indian encampment; but nothing to warrant the belief that the natives ever had a permanent residence here. Bears proved a great annoyance to the settlers by destroying their sheep and

plundering their corn-fields; like other thieves they generally committed their depredations in the night, but were sometimes daring enough to attack a flock of sheep, or a field of corn, in the daytime; they were occasionally shot, but the most successful method of capturing them was with the log trap. The wolves, however, were much more troublesome than the bears; they prowled about the settlement only in the night, and were seldom captured or seen, but it was a very common thing to hear their doleful howl on the mountains in the evening. Early in the present century, considerable search was made here by some of the inhabitants for minerals, and by others for buried treasure. Abel Spaulding commenced digging for iron ore, and continued washing and digging at intervals for several years, but found nothing but a small bed of yellow ochre. Samuel S. Savage became suddenly elated with an illusion of enormous wealth, and supposed himself a millionaire. His daughter Nancy had dreamed three nights in succession that one of Captain Kidd's large pots of money lay buried near a ledge of rocks a short distance from his house. He at once commenced digging for it, and used all the precautions necessary for making fast to the pot; but in an evil hour, — just as he struck the lid with his crow-bar, — the pot vanished, and neither he nor any of his neighbors have ever been able to give any satisfactory account as to what became of it.

General Wait's name is deserving of some further notice. He was born in Sudbury, Mass., February 13, 1737. At the age of eighteen years he entered the service under General Amherst. In 1756 he was taken prisoner by the French, carried to Quebec, and from thence sent to France, and while on the way he was retaken by the British and carried to England. In 1757 he returned to America, and, in 1758, assisted at the capture of Louisburg, and was engaged in the siege of Canada during the two following years. In 1767 he removed with his family to Windsor, in this state, which made the third family in that town. He was a prominent advocate of the rights of Vermont in the controversy with New York. In 1776 he entered the army of the United States as a captain, and fought under the banners of Washington till the close of the war, during which time he had been promoted to the rank of colonel. After his return home he was made a brigadier-general of the state militia, was seven years high sheriff of Windsor county, and three years represented the town of Windsor in the legislature. After his removal here, as above stated, he represented this town for seven years, and died in 1822, at the age of eighty-six.

In 1822, four tiers of lots, including a tier of small lots on the east side of the town, were annexed to Northfield; and, in 1846, sixteen other lots were annexed, amounting, in the whole, to 8,310 acres; leav-

ing to Waitsfield an area of 15,540 acres. The eastern part of the town is mountainous. Mad river is the principal stream, and along its margin there is much rich interval land, which, united with the fine pastures on the adjacent uplands, makes some excellent farms. Waitsfield has one village, and one post-office; four church edifices — Congregational, Methodist Episcopal, Wesleyan Methodist, and Universalist; and eight school districts: also, a starch-factory, grist-mill, shingle mill, carding-machine, two tanneries, several saw-mills, and the usual number of mechanic shops. Population, 1,021; valuation, \$288,653.

WALDEN, in the western part of Caledonia county, twenty-two miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered to Moses Robinson and sixty-five others, August 18, 1781. The settlement was entered upon in January, 1789, by Nathaniel Perkins and family, who were for three years the only persons in town. Mr. Perkins remained upon the spot where he settled until his death, in 1842, at the age of ninety years. He was the first town clerk and representative, and his son Jesse was the first native of Walden. Nathan Barker was the second settler. The first lands cleared and habitations erected were on the Hazen road, at a place where there was a block-house built during the Revolutionary war. Hon. James Bell, a prominent lawyer and very popular speaker, who was for many years a member of the legislature, was a citizen of this town, and died here April 23, 1852. Walden was organized March 24, 1794, and contains 23,040 acres. A portion of this is rough. The pass over the mountains here has an altitude of 1,615 feet above the level of the sea. The northwestern part has a handsome surface, and the soil generally is a deep, rich loam, producing good crops. Water is furnished by the Winooski and Lamoille rivers, and by Joe's brook. There are two considerable ponds — Cole's, in the northeastern, Lyford's, and a portion of Joe's, in the southern part. There are two villages — South Walden and East Walden; three church edifices — Congregational, Methodist, and Union; two post-offices — Walden and South Walden; and twelve school districts: also, one grist-mill, eight saw-mills, two starch factories, one carriage shop, and two wheelwright's shops. Population, 910; valuation, \$279,612.

WALLINGFORD, in the southeasterly part of Rutland county, sixty-two miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, November 27, 1761, to Captain Eliakim Hall and sixty-five others; and the settlement was commenced in 1773 by Abraham Jackson and family, — the early settlers being mostly from Connecticut. Jerathiel Doty, a soldier of

the Revolution, and the last survivor of the body-guard and escort of Lafayette to his native country, died at South Wallingford, on the 14th of November, 1857. Mr. Doty was born in Rhode Island in 1764, and was consequently ninety-three years of age. He enlisted in the continental army when only fifteen years old, and served throughout the seven years' struggle. Again, in 1812, he volunteered in his country's service, and took part in the operations at Plattsburg. The deceased was buried on Wednesday the 18th with public honors.

The town was organized March 10, 1778, and contained by charter 23,040 acres. In October, 1792, a portion of Wallingford (2,388 acres) was taken to help form Mount Holly; and in October, 1793, a part of Tinmouth was annexed to this town. The eastern part of it lies on the Green Mountains, and the highest ridge here is called the White Rocks. The soil near Otter creek is of a good quality; and in other parts it is fair, producing excellent grass. The town is watered by Otter creek, Mill river, and by a number of brooks, all which afford convenient sites for mills. Lake Hiram, sometimes called Spectacle pond, lies on the mountain in the southeast part, covering about three hundred and fifty acres. A mile and a half southwest of Lake Hiram is a pond covering about fifty acres; and west of Otter creek, opposite the village, is one covering one hundred acres. A range of primitive limestone passes through the west part, in which have been opened several quarries of excellent marble. The principal village is situated near Otter creek, in the north part, about a mile from Clarendon line. It is a very flourishing place, containing a number of stores and mechanics' shops, and is built principally upon one street, running north and south. There is another village — South Wallingford. There are in town four church edifices — two Baptist, one Congregational, and one Universalist; three post-offices — Wallingford, East Wallingford, and South Wallingford; and fourteen school districts: also, two grist-mills, ten stores, one pitchfork factory, one clothes-pin factory, two cheese-box factories, two wheelwright's and three blacksmith's shops, and one printing establishment. The Rutland and Burlington, and the Western Vermont Railroads pass through this town. Population, 1,688; valuation, \$742,700.

**WALTHAM**, in the northerly part of Addison county, thirty-three miles from Montpelier, containing about nine square miles, was, until its incorporation, the northwest corner of New Haven. The settlement was commenced just prior to the Revolutionary war, by a family named Griswold, and others from Connecticut. During the war, Mr. Griswold was carried a prisoner into Canada by the Indians, where he was de-

tained about three years. During the prosecution of the contest between the colonies and the mother country, from anticipated dangers, this settlement was broken up, and was not recommenced till the close of the war, when Messrs. Phineas Brown of Waltham, Mass., Griswold, Cook, and others, settled here. From the time of their arrival, considerable progress was made. In 1796, after the incorporation of Vergennes, it was set off and incorporated, receiving its name, in deference to Mr. Brown, from his former place of residence. The soil is generally good, and along Otter creek, by which the town is watered, are some fine tracts of interval. Buck mountain, having an elevation of 1,035 feet, lies near the centre, and is the highest land in the county west of the Green Mountains. The town is divided into three school districts, having eighty scholars. There is no minister, doctor, or lawyer, village church or post-office. The people trade and receive their mails at Vergennes. Population, 270; valuation, \$107,460.

WARDSBOROUGH, in the westerly part of Windham county, ninety-three miles from Montpelier, was granted and chartered November 7, 1780, to William Ward of Newfane and sixty-two others. The first efforts at settlement were made in June of that year by John Jones, Ithamar Allen, and others, from Milford and Sturbridge, Mass. The town was organized March 14, 1786, and in 1788 was divided into two districts, called the North and South districts, the latter of which was, in 1810, incorporated as a separate town by the name of Dover. By the charter both towns had 33,944 acres; and after the separation Wardsborough was left a little larger than Dover, with nearly 18,000 acres. The surface is very uneven, and some parts of it very rocky. A range of high hills separates this town from Dover. A considerable branch of West river waters this place, and affords some tolerably good mill privileges. Some minerals are found, of which tremolite and zoisite are the most interesting, the former being found in crystals sometimes six inches long, and the latter in gray crystals often one foot in length and one or two inches wide. There are three villages—Wardsborough, West Wardsborough, and South Wardsborough, with a post-office at each; four church edifices—two Congregational, one Methodist, and one Baptist; and seven school districts: also, three grist-mills, six saw-mills, one tannery, and a raw-hide whip-factory. Population, 1,125; valuation, \$316,783.

WARREN, in the southwest part of Washington county, sixteen miles from Montpelier, was granted November 9, 1780, and chartered October 20, 1789, to the Hon. John Throop and sixty-seven others; and the set-



tlement was commenced, in the year 1797, by Samuel Lard and Seth Leavitt. The town was organized September 20, 1798, and contains 16,660 acres. Warren lies between the two ranges of the Green Mountains at the place where they commence, but the surface is not very mountainous. It is watered by Mad river, which affords a number of good mill privileges. There are two villages — East and West Warren, with a post-office at each; two church edifices, free to all denominations; and twelve school districts: also, two grist-mills, two saw-mills, and two clapboard mills. Population, 962; valuation, \$216,217.

WASHINGTON, in the northwesterly part of Orange county, fifteen miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered to Major Elisha Burton and sixty-four others, August 8, 1781. The territory was granted by New York, by the name of Kingland, and it was constituted the shire town of Gloucester county. A town plot was laid out into village lots near the centre, and a log jail erected, which gave the name of Jail branch to two streams rising here. It was first settled in 1785, by Daniel Morse, who was soon followed by his brother, John Morse. The proprietors voted to give Daniel Morse one hundred acres of land, and to the son of John Morse, who was the first native, fifty acres. In the spring of 1788, eighteen settlers moved in, among whom were Elisha Smith, Jacob Burton, Abel Skinner, Bela Tracy, Robert Ingraham, and Thaddeus White, the last of whom was the first representative, in 1794. Washington was organized March 1, 1792, and contains 23,040 acres. It is watered by branches of the Winooski, Wait's, and White rivers, which afford a few mill privileges. The town has one village, situated on Jail branch, a tributary of the Winooski river; two church edifices — Universalist and a Union house; sixteen school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, one saw-mill, with clapboard and shingle machines therein, and four other saw-mills. Population, 1,348; valuation, \$328,698.

WASHINGTON COUNTY lies principally between the two ranges of the Green Mountains, in the northern central portion of the state, and contains 580 square miles. After the sessions of the legislature had been established at Montpelier, a new county, in which that town was centrally situated, was incorporated November 1, 1810, by the name of Jefferson, embracing fifteen towns from the adjoining counties of Chittenden, Caledonia, and Orange; and was organized December 1, 1811. The name was changed to Washington, November 8, 1814. In 1836, four towns were annexed to it from Orleans, Caledonia, Orange, and Addison, and two were cut off to aid in forming the county of Lamoille.

In 1848 the incorporation of East Montpelier gave this county an additional town, making up its present number of eighteen towns, of which Montpelier is the shire town. The annual term of the supreme court is opened here on the second Tuesday of August, and the terms of the county courts on the second Tuesdays of March and September. The surface of the county is quite uneven, it being the point of divergence of the east and west ranges of the Green Mountain chain. It is traversed by the river Winooski, and by Mad, Dog, and others of its branches. The eastern part is prolific of excellent granite; but in the western the rocks are principally of argillaceous slate, quartz, chlorite slate, and mica slate. Population, 26,010; valuation, \$6,621,440.

WATERBURY, in the northwestern part of Washington county, twelve miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 7, 1763, to John Stiles and sixty-five others; and in June, 1784, James Marsh moved his family, consisting of a wife and eight children, into the town from Bath, N. H., taking possession of a surveyor's cabin, which was standing near Winooski river. For nearly a year this family was solitary and alone, having been induced to settle here upon the pledge of the proprietors that several other families should join them. In September, 1786, Elder Ezra Butler, who had visited this place the year previous for the purpose of preparing a place of residence, moved his family in from Weathersfield, and was followed by Caleb Munson in 1788, and soon by others.

Mr. Butler continued on the farm where he settled until his death, July 19, 1838. He officiated as pastor of the Baptist church for more than thirty years, was the first town clerk, eleven years a representative, and fifteen years a member of the council. From 1803 to 1806 he was first assistant judge in Chittenden county, and chief judge from 1806 to 1811, when he was elected to the same office for Jefferson (now Washington) county, then just organized, which he held until he was chosen governor of the state in 1826. To this place he was reëlected the next year. In 1822 he was a member of the constitutional convention; in 1806, of the council of censors; and from 1813 to 1815 a member of congress. Aside from his thirty years' pastorate, and serving in town offices, his aggregate term of public service reached fifty-three years.

Waterbury was organized March 31, 1790. That part of Middlesex containing lots 50, 55, 56, 57, 58, 63, and 64, lying on the westerly side of Hogback mountain, and a portion of the undivided land in that town, were annexed to Waterbury, October 30, 1850; and it now contains 25,978 acres. Dr. Daniel Bliss was the first representative. There is much level land, and where the surface is uneven the swells are so

gradual as to present little or no obstacle to cultivation. The interval on Winooski river, and on several smaller streams, is not surpassed in fertility by any in the state. Waterbury river and Thatcher's branch run through the town from north to south into the Winooski, and afford several excellent mill privileges, most of which are now occupied. There are two villages — Waterbury Street and Waterbury Centre; four meeting-houses — two Methodist, one Baptist, and one Congregational; seventeen school districts, one post-office, and the Bank of Waterbury with a capital of \$60,000: also, two grist-mills, ten saw-mills, and three tanneries. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through Waterbury. Population, 2,352; valuation, \$666,888.

**WATERFORD**, in the eastern part of Caledonia county, thirty-two miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, and chartered to Benjamin Whipple and sixty-four others, November 8, 1780, by the name of Littleton, which was changed to its present one, March 9, 1797. The settlement was begun in 1787, and the town was organized May 6, 1793, and contained 23,040 acres. The surface is generally rough and stony. There are some flats along the Connecticut here, but they are narrow, and not overflowed at high water. Stiles pond lies in the south-east part, and covers about one hundred acres. The Passumpsic river passes the west corner of the town, and Moose river touches its northerly corner. There are three villages — Waterford, Lower Waterford, and West Waterford, each having a post-office; two church edifices — Union and Congregational; and fourteen school districts: also, eight saw-mills. The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad runs through the westerly corner. Population, 1,412; valuation, \$355,672.

**WATERVILLE**, in the northwestern part of Lamoille county, forty miles from Montpelier, was chartered October 26, 1788, to James Whitelaw, James Savage, and William Coit. When chartered it was known as Coit's gore, containing 10,000 acres. October 26, 1799, a part of this gore was annexed to Bakersfield; the remainder of it, together with parts of Bakersfield and Belvidere, was incorporated under its present name, November 15, 1824. The settlement was commenced about the year 1789, and it was organized soon afterwards. The first mills were erected in 1796 and 1797. Along the Lamoille river, by which the town is watered, there is a tract of very good land; but the other parts are somewhat mountainous and broken. In the north part of the town is an extensive quarry of soapstone. There are two church edifices — one occupied by the Congregationalists and Methodists, the other by Universalists and others; seven school districts, and one post-office: also,

one large flannel factory employing seventy-five hands, manufacturing about one hundred thousand yards annually; one starch factory, one grist-mill, and one sash and blind shop. Population, 753; valuation, \$137,757.

WEATHERSFIELD, in the southeasterly part of Windsor county, seventy miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 20, 1761, to Gideon Lyman and sixty-one others, most of whom were from New Haven, Conn. They entered at once upon the settlement of the town, and in 1765 the proprietors made a report of their progress, representing that they had been at great expense in surveying and lotting the township, and had cleared and cultivated a portion of the land and built a number of houses. But becoming alarmed at the fierceness of the dispute in which New Hampshire and New York were then engaged, and fearing that it might retard the progress of their settlement, they addressed a petition to the lieutenant-governor of New York, on the 17th of October, 1766, expressing a desire for protection. This petition was favorably received, and on the 8th of April, 1772, the town was regranted by the government of New York to Gideon Lyman and his associates. Thomas Prentiss, Joseph Hubbard, and Samuel Steele were among the early settlers.

The inhabitants of Weathersfield not only took an active part in the controversy with New York, but were enthusiastic supporters of American liberty. Twenty-one out of twenty-four citizens, on the 31st of July, 1775, formed an association in this behalf, in conformity to the recommendation of congress the preceding year. Those who refused to join were John and Joseph Marsh, and John Marsh, Jr.

Dr. Peleg Redfield, who was a physician of some prominence, was an early resident of this town; but removed to Coventry in 1806, being one of its first settlers, and continued to reside there until his death, November 8, 1848, holding in succession its most responsible offices. His son, Hon. Isaac F. Redfield, was born in Weathersfield, April 10, 1804, and removed with his father to Coventry, where he remained until he entered Dartmouth College in 1821. He was admitted to the bar in 1827, and commenced practice in Derby, where he continued until he was elected to the bench of the supreme court of this state in 1835, being state's attorney for Orleans county for the three years preceding, and having an extensive practice in the three northeastern counties of the state. He had a very prominent agency in breaking up the gang of counterfeiters upon the borders of Lower Canada, and attended, on behalf of the Boston Bank Association, the trials of those arrested, in the court of king's bench, Montreal, in which convictions were secured.

He has continued upon the bench until the present time, and, since 1852, has been chief justice. Judge Redfield is the author of "A Treatise on the Law of Railways," recently published, which has been received with the highest favor in all parts of the country. The degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by Trinity College in 1849, and by Dartmouth College in 1855.

The town was organized in March, 1778, and contains 25,063 acres. Upon the banks of the Connecticut are some of the best farms in the state. The meadows on Black river are very rich and fertile. Ascutney mountain, 3,320 feet above the sea-level, situated in the north part, is the only elevation of note, and divides this town from Windsor.

Weathersfield has obtained considerable notoriety for the interest the people have taken in wool-growing, and in the improvement of their flocks of sheep. Hon. William Jarvis, a resident of this town, and for some years United States consul at the port of Lisbon, imported some of the choicest breeds to be found in Europe, which has done much towards building up the wool-growing interest, not only in Vermont, but throughout the Middle and Western states. The manufacture of lime is prosecuted to some extent. There are two villages, the principal one Perkinsville, which received its name in honor of Mr. Perkins, a capitalist of Boston, who entered largely into the manufacture of woollen goods at this place and at Ascutneyville. There are six church edifices—three Congregational, one Methodist, one Baptist, and one Union; twelve school districts, and five post-offices—Weathersfield, Weathersfield Centre, Perkinsville, Ascutneyville, and Upper Falls: also, one cotton mill with one hundred looms, which manufactures printing cloth; several grist-mills and saw-mills, two tanneries, and one bobbin factory. Population, 1,851; valuation, \$748,753.

WELLS, in the western part of Rutland county, sixty-five miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, September 15, 1761, to Eliakim Hall and sixty-three others; and the first settlers were Ogden Mallary, about the year 1768, and Daniel and Samuel Culver, in 1771. The town was organized March 9, 1773, and was originally six miles square; but it has been reduced by annexations to Poultney and Middletown, 6,118 acres being taken October 28, 1784, to help form the latter town. John Ward was the first town clerk, and Daniel Culver the first representative, in 1778. The western part is generally level, and the eastern part mountainous and broken. The soil is generally good, where it is not so uneven as to preclude the possibility of cultivation. The town is watered by Wells pond, which lies partly in Poultney, and covers upwards of 2,000 acres, the outlet of which, and another stream,

afford mill privileges. There are three church edifices—Methodist, Episcopal, and Universalist; eight school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, two saw-mills, a blacksmith's and a wheelwright's shop. Population, 804; valuation, \$240,200.

WEST FAIRLEE, in the easterly part of Orange county, twenty-eight miles from Montpelier, was set off from Fairlee and incorporated February 25, 1797, and embraces rather more than half of the original town, or 13,304 acres. It was organized March 31, 1797. The first town clerk was Asa May, who served three years; his successor, Elisha Thayer, served until 1847, a period of forty-seven years. The first selectmen were Reuben Dickinson, Samuel Robinson, and George Bixby: Calvin Morse was the first constable. The town was represented in connection with the parent town until 1823.

Hon. Nathaniel Niles, who was a distinguished citizen of this town, was born in South Kingston, R. I., graduated at Princeton in 1769, was for a time student of law and medicine, and then of theology under Dr. Bellamy, and preached in various places. He resided in Norwich, Conn., where he married a daughter of Elijah Lothrop, a man of wealth, and here invented a method of making wire from bar iron by water power, which was the first invention of the kind. He came to this state, purchased land, and was the first settler in West Fairlee. He was speaker of the house of representatives of Vermont in 1784, judge of the supreme court from 1784 to 1788, and member of congress from 1791 to 1795. He also published several of his discourses.

The surface of the town is very uneven, but the soil moderately productive. It is watered by Fairlee lake, lying partly within the township, and Ompompanoosuc river. It has one village, one post-office, two church edifices—Congregational, and one owned by the Freewill Baptists and Universalists; and sixteen school districts: also, a manufactory for carriages; one for sashes, doors, and blinds; a tannery, a harness-maker's and a shoemaker's shop. Population, 696; valuation, \$196,777.

WESTFIELD, in the western part of Orleans county, forty-four miles from Montpelier, was chartered May 15, 1780, to Daniel Owen and fifty-nine others. Jesse Olds, a Mr. Hobbs, and others, commenced the settlement in 1799. The town was organized March 29, 1802, and contains 23,040 acres. In the eastern part is some very good land; but the western part is high and mountainous, and unfit for cultivation. Hazen's Notch in the Green Mountains is situated in the southwest corner. Missisco river and three of its tributaries water the town, and furnish several mill privileges. Westfield contains one village, one church edi-

rice, owned by the Congregationalists and Methodists, five school districts with one school in each, and one post-office: also, several saw-mills, a starch-factory, and an establishment for making butter tubs. Population, 502; valuation, \$123,580.

WESTFORD, in the northern part of Chittenden county, thirty-two miles northwest from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire to Henry Franklin and sixty-four others, June 8, 1763, and contained 23,040 acres. The first settlement was made by Henry Parmelee and others in 1783-84, but the township had not a sufficient number to effect an organization until 1793. Martin Powell was first town clerk, and the office was filled by him and Paul Eager for about an equal time until 1817-18. The first selectmen were John Seeley, Levi Farnsworth, and Shubael Woodruff; and Jeremiah Stone was first representative, in 1793. The surface is uneven, but not mountainous. It is watered by Brown's river, on which are several saw-mills. There are three meeting-houses — Baptist, Congregational, and Methodist Episcopal; twelve school districts, and one post-office. Population, 1,458; valuation, \$316,535.

WEST HAVEN, in the western part of Rutland county, at the lower extremity of Lake Champlain, and sixty miles from Montpelier, formerly comprised a part of Fairhaven, from which it was set off and incorporated October 20, 1792. Elijah Tryon was the first settler in 1783. It was organized the same year, Nathan Barlow being the first town clerk, Lemuel Hyde, Cornelius Brownson, and Dr. Simeon Smith being the first selectmen. William and Artemas Wyman held the office of town clerk — excepting two years — from 1798 to 1845.

The town has an area of 14,191 acres, and possesses a clayey soil with an abundance of limestone. It is watered by Hubbardton river and Cogman's creek, Poultney river also coursing along the southern boundary, and all emptying into East bay. There are two church edifices — Baptist and Congregationalist, seven school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, and two or three saw-mills. Population, 718; valuation, \$234,170.

WESTMINSTER, in the eastern part of Windham county, opposite to Walpole, N. H., and eighty-two miles from Montpelier, was originally "Number One" upon the west bank of Connecticut river, it being among the townships on the Connecticut and Merrimack rivers ordered to be laid out by the general court of Massachusetts, January 15, 1735-6, twenty-eight of which were between these two rivers. This

was granted November 19, 1736, to Captains Joseph Tisdale, James Leonard, Deacon Samuel Sumner, and about thirty others, from Taunton, Norton, and Easton, Mass., and Ashford and Killingly, Conn., who had petitioned for the same. The first meeting of proprietors was held at Taunton, January 14, 1736-7; and, after a number of meetings, the allotment of the sixty-three rights, into which the township was divided, was made the same year, and the township was familiarly known as New Taunton. By the records of July 8, 1740, it appears that a saw-mill had been built. It also appears that improvements were made in 1739-40 by Richard Ellis and his son Reuben, of Easton, who built a dwelling-house, and cleared and cultivated several acres of land; by Lieutenant John Harney, James Washburn, Joseph Eddy, Seth Tisdale, and Jonathan Thayer, who were engaged in making roads and fences. These, however, are not supposed to have been permanent settlers, as the establishment of the northern boundary line of Massachusetts, in 1740, left this township without the jurisdiction of that province; and the last meeting ever known to have been held by the Massachusetts proprietors was in 1742, when advice as to the means of securing their title and possession was asked of the legislature of that state. If the settlers had not become wholly disheartened by this seemingly unfortunate change of jurisdiction, it is believed that the insecurity of the frontiers, upon the breaking out of the Cape Breton war in 1744, completed the desertion of this township. There is a tradition that one Barney (perhaps either John or Jonathan, whose names appear among the first grantees in 1736) came to New Taunton as early as 1749, built a house, erected the frame of a saw-mill, and was afterwards driven away by the Indians.<sup>1</sup> In the spring of 1751, John Averill, with his wife, and son Asa, came here from Northfield, Mass. He found but two houses. The one into which he moved, situated on the top of Willard's or Clapp's hill, at the south end of the main street, had been occupied by William Gould and his son John, Amos Carpenter, Atherton Chaffee, a woman, and two children. Gould and Carpenter moved their families into the township from Northfield during the summer of that year. The other house — unoccupied — was probably the one built in 1739 by Richard Ellis. Anna Averill, born in 1751, was the first native.

At the last meeting of the Massachusetts proprietors, an attempt was made to procure a recognition of their charter from New Hampshire; but nothing is known to have been done by that state until November 9, 1752, when Governor Wentworth issued a charter to sixty-six persons, in which the town was called Westminster. By this charter, as well as

<sup>1</sup> Hall's Eastern Vermont, p. 60, note.



the first, it contained 23,040 acres. The first meeting was held in August, 1753, at Winchester, N. H. (and indeed the proprietors' meetings were held in that town for eight years), at the house of Major Josiah Willard, whose father, Colonel Josiah Willard of Fort Dummer, was the purchaser of twelve shares from the original proprietors. A subsequent meeting was held at Fort Dummer the same year, but no new settlements were made on account of a new war breaking out that year between the French and English, and the consequent feeling of danger away from reach of the forts. After the depredations and captures by the Indians at Charlestown, N. H., in August, 1754, the few inhabitants of this place removed across the river to Walpole for security, but returned again in October. In February, 1755, the Averill family moved to Putney. It was at this juncture that the fort upon the "Great Meadow" was built.<sup>1</sup> Upon the return of peace, the conditions of the charter not having been fulfilled, Colonel Willard (mentioned above as major, who had, upon the death of his father, succeeded to the command of Fort Dummer) obtained a renewal on the 11th of June, 1760. A meeting of the proprietors was held, February 4, 1761, at the house of John Averill, and measures were taken to forward the settlement. Before the close of 1766, more than fifty families had become inhabitants. In 1771 there was a population of 478, it being the largest town on the east of the Green Mountains, if not in Vermont. No records are known to have been kept from 1761 to 1781; if so, they were probably concealed or destroyed on account of the political troubles; nor is it known when the town was organized. A confirmatory charter was issued by New York, March 16, 1772. In this year also a change of the place of holding the Cumberland county courts from Chester to Westminster was effected, and this continued to be the shire town until 1781; and the half shire town with Marlborough from 1781 to 1787, when Newfane became the capital of Windham county. It was in connection with the sitting of the courts at Westminster that the unhappy occurrence of March 13, 1775, became a part of its history. The cause of this riot lay deeper than a mere unwillingness to submit to the jurisdiction of New York. In fact, this unwillingness, so persistently exhibited in all the early history of Vermont, was rather the effect than the cause of the real difficulty. Hostility to British coercion had at this time reached a high point; and the fact that the higher civil officers in this country had received their appointments directly from New York, and remained loyal to the King, rendered them, in the eyes of the people, but little more tolerable than the crown officers sent over

<sup>1</sup> Article on Putney, p. 879.

to exact the last tithe of obedience. It was with this feeling that an attempt was made to induce the judges not to hold the court for that term; failing in which, about ninety or a hundred men, some of them armed, got possession of the court-house. The sheriff, having anticipated the difficulty, had obtained the assistance of about sixty persons from this and the neighboring towns. The mob were barred within: the sheriff without demanded admittance. High words passed upon both sides: some blows were given, and finally the sheriff's party fired, which was quickly returned. William French, "a clever, steady, honest, working farmer" boy, of scarcely twenty-two years (son of Nathaniel French, who resided in Brattleborough, almost upon the Dummerston line), fell mortally wounded, and died the next day. The party within, after a severe struggle, were overpowered; eight or ten were taken prisoners. Daniel Houghton, of Dummerston, was also mortally wounded, and survived only nine days. An inquest was immediately held upon the body of French, and a verdict of murder rendered. The event was forthwith trumpeted afar, and brought together on the following day between four and five hundred persons, ready for any emergency. The judges met, and prepared a hasty statement of the facts for the government of New York, but, as danger was imminent, they adjourned the court to the June term. Young French, having been deeply imbued with sentiments of liberty, was at once recognized as a martyr; and as the events of Lexington and Concord followed so closely upon this, he was set down by many as the first martyr to British tyranny. It is quite certain that the exponents of the British government, either in New York or Boston, would have been prompt to aid in the subjugation of the people—as Lieutenant-Governor Colden applied to General Gage for arms for this purpose—but for the affair of the 19th of April. In 1852, a petition was addressed to the legislature of this state, bearing upon it some of the most respectable and influential names, including those of Charles K. Williams, William C. Bradley, Carlos Coolidge, and Jacob Collamer, for the erection of a suitable monument over the grave of French; and the passage of a bill appropriating \$2,500 to that purpose was most ably advocated by Mr. Bradley, but failed by only a few votes.

Westminster has been the seat of several patriotic conventions, especially those for the formation of a state government. The legislature of Vermont met here in 1780, 1783, 1789, and 1803. This town has also been the residence of many distinguished men—some of them of quite opposite sentiments. Crean Brush, a native of Dublin, Ireland, educated as a lawyer, came to America in or prior to the year 1762—became a resident of this town in 1771, and the next year was appointed

clerk and surrogate of Cumberland county, and received a commission to administer all official oaths. He procured his election to the New York assembly, where he made himself conspicuous in his advocacy of tory sentiments, and suggested the resolution requesting the governor to publish that famous proclamation offering a reward of £50, in each case, for the apprehension of Ethan Allen and seven of his compatriots. His tory principles were so extreme that he was convinced there would be no further request for his services at Westminster. Having remained a short time at New York, he went to Boston—offered his services to General Gage—became nominally a receptor for the goods of persons in that town who wished to have them protected through fear of their insecurity during the presence of the British army, which was quartered about town—plundered the shops of merchants—crowded their goods on board vessels, and left with Admiral Howe's fleet upon the evacuation of that town. This vessel getting separated from the fleet, he was captured before he got out of the harbor—taken back to Boston, tried, and imprisoned for nearly two years—effected his escape—went to New York, and, stung with mortification and grief at finding no sympathy for his injuries and losses, even among British officers, in May, 1778, he put an end to his own life by a pistol ball.

Stephen Row Bradley, a grandson of Stephen Bradley, who was one of Cromwell's Ironsides, was born in Wallingford, Conn., February 20, 1754; graduated at Yale College in 1775; entered the American army in 1776, as captain of the "Cheshire Volunteers;" became quarter-master, and aid-de-camp to General David Wooster, and was with him when he fell in the attack on Danbury, in 1777. In 1778-9 he was a commissary, and also major; and, when not engaged in a military capacity, devoted himself to the study of law, assisted by Judge Reeve. He is supposed to have come to Vermont in 1779, and practised as an attorney. In 1780 he was appointed clerk of the Cumberland county court. He rose rapidly; became the associate of Allen, Warner, and Chittenden, and was chosen to present the claims of Vermont to congress, as opposed to those of New Hampshire and New York, which he did in an ably written published document entitled "Vermont's Appeal to the Candid and Impartial World." His military abilities did not escape observation, and he became lieutenant-colonel, and, in 1791, brigadier-general, in the Vermont militia. Between 1781 and 1791 he held the various offices of selectman and town clerk of Westminster, representative to the legislature, speaker of the house, register of probate for Windham county, county judge, side judge of the supreme court, commissioner to ascertain the line between New York and this state, and member of the constitutional convention in 1791; and,

the same year, he and Moses Robinson were chosen the first senators of the new state. He served for the four years assigned to him by lot, and in 1801 was returned for a second term, and in 1807 for a third, and served it out. During this time he was twice chosen president *pro tempore* of the senate. At the end of his third term, in 1813, he retired from public life: in 1818 he removed to Walpole, N. H., where he resided until his death, December 9, 1830. His son, Hon. William C. Bradley, was born at Westminster, March 23, 1782, and still survives. He has served the public as a lawyer of eminent ability, was a member of congress for six years,—1813–15 and 1823–27,—where he enjoyed the confidence and esteem of the most distinguished statesmen. His pen has also made valuable contributions in the various departments of knowledge. Ezra Stiles, son of Rev. Dr. Stiles, president of Yale College, also settled here as a lawyer. Lot Hall, who was born in Barnstable, Mass., in 1757, served his country in the navy, and became a lieutenant; was captured, and carried a prisoner of war to Scotland, and on returning to Barnstable commenced the study of law; came to Vermont in 1782, first settling at Bennington, and removed to this town in 1783. He represented Westminster in the legislature several years; was a member of the council of censors in 1799; was a judge of the supreme court from 1794 to 1801, and a fellow of Middlebury College from its beginning until his death, May 17, 1809. An eloquent eulogium upon the character of Washington, pronounced by him, is preserved. Mark Richards, lieutenant-governor of the state in 1830, and member of congress from 1817 to 1821, was also resident here.

The surface is generally quite level, part of it showing table-land of a mile in diameter, considerably elevated above the river, as well as above the large and fertile meadows upon the north and south. This table-land is inclosed by hills, so that there are no streams of consequence, and no mill sites. For many years after the removal of the courts to Newfane, this town maintained its reputation as a place of considerable business; but of late years it has been otherwise, and perhaps rather on the decline. The first newspaper published in Vermont, "The Vermont Gazette," was started here in 1781. There are two villages — Westminster East and Westminster West, the former being the principal one, with a post-office at each; two church edifices — Congregational; thirteen school districts, and an academy: also, a tannery, a grist-mill, and several saw-mills. The Vermont Valley Railroad passes through the east part of the town. Population, 1,721; valuation, \$582,686.

WESTMORE, in the southeast part of Orleans county, forty-three miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered to Uriah

Seymour and sixty-four others, by the name of Westford, August 17, 1781, the name being afterwards changed to the one it now bears. The town was surveyed in March, 1800, containing under the charter 23,040 acres, and the settlement was commenced the same spring. This was abandoned during the war of 1812, but resumed on the return of peace. Westmore was organized March 19, 1805, and is but thinly settled. The surface is uneven, and Mounts Hor, Pisgah, and Pico, are the most important summits. The town is watered by Willoughby lake (which is about six miles long and one and a half miles wide, and discharges its waters by Willoughby river into Barton river), and by some of the head branches of Clyde and Passumpsic rivers. Westmore has one village, called Mill Brook, ten school districts, and one post-office — Willoughby Lake: also, two saw-mills, and a starch-mill. Population, 152; valuation, \$60,829.

WESTON, in the southwest corner of Windsor county, sixty-six miles from Montpelier, was formerly a part of Andover, from which it was set off October 26, 1799, and organized March 3, 1800. It was made up from more than half of the original area of Andover (23,500 acres), and 5,000 acres, lying west of it, called Benton's gore, which had been chartered by New Hampshire, October 25, 1781, to Samuel Benton and twenty-one others, together making 19,110 acres. The surface is very rough and mountainous, one half lying on the eastern slope of the Green Mountains at an angle of about forty degrees, and the other half on the western declivity of a spur of the Green Mountain range, that divides Weston from Andover,—the central part partaking much of the character of a gorge or deep ravine, through which the waters of West river wind their way to the Connecticut. The inhabitants of Weston, who are mainly of the laboring class, are principally engaged in agriculture. Along the margin of West river are two pretty little villages, called Weston and the Island. Weston village is the principal, and contains three churches — Congregational, Baptist, and Union; forty dwelling-houses, four stores, a hotel, one school-house, and a variety of mechanics' shops. The Island, so called from its being situated on a point of land between West river and a canal which is cut across a curve in the river to accommodate a mill, is a place of limited business, but is gradually growing in population. There are twelve school districts, and one post-office: also, ten saw-mills, a grist-mill, two tanneries, one turning mill, one machine-shop, one axe shop, one carding-machine, and blacksmiths', carpenters', tinsmiths', wheelwrights', and shoemakers' shops. Population, 950; valuation, \$284,247.

**WEST WINDSOR**, in the eastern part of Windsor county, about seventy-seven miles from Montpelier, was formerly the western part of the town of Windsor, from which it was set off in 1814, but reunited the following year. On the 26th of October, 1848, it was again set off and incorporated, and in January of the following year it was organized. Its area embraces 14,015 acres, or more than half of the original town. Upon the first division of the town, Jabez Delano was the representative; and under the last, in 1849, Daniel Read was elected. The first town clerk (still in office) was Gilman H. Shedd; selectmen, Daniel Read, Joel Hale, and Thomas Bagley. The land in West Windsor is hilly but fertile. It is watered by Mill brook, which rises in Reading and flows eastward to the Connecticut. The business of the people is wholly agricultural, special attention being given to wool-growing. There are two villages, called Sheddsville and Brownsville; two meeting-houses — Universalist at the former village, and Methodist at the latter; nine school districts, and one post-office — Brownsville: also, three saw-mills, two grist-mills, one flannel and stocking-yarn factory, one tannery, one manufactory of brass and silver trimmings for carriages and harnesses, and one knife manufactory. Population, 1,002; valuation, \$416,986.

**WEYBRIDGE**, in the central part of Addison county, thirty-five miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire to Joseph Gilbert and sixty-three others, November 3, 1761, and embraced under the charter 25,000 acres, but 8,261 of which could be identified when the survey was made, other prior grants having overlapped this. Portions from other towns have been annexed to it — October 28, 1791, from New Haven, October 22, 1804, from Addison, and October 28, 1806, from Panton; so that it has, at present, an area of upwards of 10,000 acres. About the beginning of the Revolution, David Stow and Thomas Sanford attempted to plant themselves here, but all who had come were soon after either dispersed or made prisoners by the enemy. The settlement was recommenced almost upon the return of peace, the settlers coming principally from Massachusetts and Connecticut. The town was organized in 1789.

The surface is mountainous; but the soil, having a limestone basis, generally yields good crops. Otter creek is the most important stream, having here several falls, which furnish fine mill privileges; and Lemon-fair river, a sluggish stream, runs through the west part into Otter creek. Some years since a body of land here slid into Otter creek, which completely stopped the water for some time, leaving the channel bare below, and materially changing the course of the stream. Two monuments

have been erected here, one to the memory of Hon. Silas Wright, and one to the settlers carried away by the Indians during the Revolutionary war.

There are two villages — Lower Falls and Upper Falls; three church edifices — Congregational, Methodist Episcopal, and Wesleyan Methodist; seven school districts, and one post-office — Weybridge Lower Falls: also, a paper-mill and linseed-oil mill at Upper Falls, a saw-mill, two grist-mills, a machine shop, and two wagon shops. Population, 804; valuation, \$265,323.

WHEELOCK, in the northwesterly part of Caledonia county, thirty miles from Montpelier, was granted and chartered to the President and Trustees of Dartmouth College and Moore's Charity School, June 14, 1785, receiving its name in honor of Rev. John Wheelock, who was at that time president of the college. Joseph Page, Abraham Morrill, and Dudley Swasey were prime movers in the settlement, and arrived here in 1790-1. The town was organized March 28, 1792, and contains 23,040 acres. In the eastern part there are many good farms; but the land in the western part is cold and stony, and but little of it under improvement. The western range of the Green Mountains passes through the western part, and is here called Wheelock mountain. The town is watered by several small streams, which furnish several good mill privileges. There are two church edifices, both Baptist; ten school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, one saw-mill, one threshing machine, and the usual mechanical operations for a small town. Population, 855; valuation, \$80,000.

WHITING, in the southern part of Addison county, forty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, August 6, 1763, to Colonel John Whiting, of Wrentham, Mass., from whom it derives its name, David Pond, and forty-six others. John Willson, from the same town, erected the first house, in 1772, and in June, 1773, a family by the name of Bolster moved into it. In 1774 the family of Mr. Willson and several others took up their residence here. During the Revolution, the inhabitants abandoned the place, and did not return till the restoration of peace, when they were accompanied by several new-comers. Among the first settlers were a Mr. Marshall, Gideon Walker, Joseph Williams, in 1784, Daniel Washburn, Joel Foster, Samuel Beach, Ezra Allen, Jehiel Hull, Henry Wiswell, and Benjamin Andrus, in 1785.

Whiting was organized in March, 1785, and contains 14,424 acres. In 1786 Ebenezer Wheelock was chosen delegate to the convention for revising the constitution, and Samuel Beach was chosen the first

representative in 1788. The soil is of the marly kind, and produces good grass and grain. In the eastern part, which is watered by the Otter creek, is a swamp covering two or three thousand acres, on which large crops of grain have been produced. There are two church edifices — Baptist and Methodist; five school districts and five schools; one post-office; and one saw-mill. The Rutland and Burlington Railroad passes through Whiting. Population, 629; valuation, \$177,631.

WHITINGHAM, in the southwest corner of Windham county, adjoining the Massachusetts line, is 112 miles from Montpelier. No charter appears to have been granted by either New Hampshire or Vermont, but four grants of territory, amounting to 9,000 acres, are found to have been made by New York, upon different dates and to different persons, by the name of Cumberland, by which name the town was originally called. These were from 1766 to 1770. Other considerable grants were made in Cumberland county, and it is not easy therefore to trace the title of the 24,674 acres which compose the area of this town. In 1770, Moses Bratlin and Silas Hamilton arrived here, and commenced the first clearings. They were followed, in 1773, by Messrs. Angel, Gustin, Nelson, Lamphere, and Pike, who came from Massachusetts and Connecticut, and brought their families. Whitingham was organized March 23, 1780. The surface is uneven, but the soil is generally good. The western part abounds with limestone, which is burnt extensively into lime. Deerfield river, near which are some valuable tracts of meadow, runs through the western part. There are many other smaller streams, as well as two natural ponds, one of which is called Sawdawga, from an old Indian who lived near it, and was supposed to have been drowned in going down Deerfield river. This pond has been gradually decreasing for the last seventy years by land forming over the water, which, to the extent of seventy or eighty acres, rises and falls with the pond. Brigham Young, the leader of the Mormons, was born in a log-hut in this town. He was of poor and humble parentage, and spent only the days of his boyhood here.

There are three villages — Whitingham Centre, Sawdawga Springs, and Jacksonville; four church edifices — two Universalist, one Baptist, and one Methodist; seventeen school districts, one academy, and two post-offices — Whitingham and Jacksonville: also, one large leather manufactory, two grist-mills, twenty lumber mills, and one iron foundry. Population, 1,380; valuation, \$331,399.

WILLIAMSTOWN, in the northwestern part of Orange county, eleven miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered



August 9, 1781, to Samuel Clark and seventy-four others. The settlement was commenced in June, 1784, by Hon. Elijah Paine and John Paine from Windsor, John Smith, Joseph Crane, Josiah Lyman, and others from Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The first family in town was that of Penuel Deming, which arrived here in February, 1785; and, in 1786, Hon. Cornelius Lynde moved in. Judge Paine was a graduate of Harvard College in 1781, in the class with Samuel Dexter and Judge Davis of Boston. He was a United States senator from Vermont from 1795 to 1801, and at the expiration of his term was appointed by President John Adams a judge of the District Court of the United States for Vermont, which office he held till within a month of his decease. He was the first president of the Phi Beta Kappa Society of Harvard, before which he delivered the first address. His death occurred in this town, April 21, 1842, at the age of eighty-five. His son, Governor Charles Paine, was born and resided here until his removal to Northfield. Another son, Elijah, was born here, graduated at Harvard in 1814,—established himself in the practice of law in New York City, was appointed reporter of the United States Circuit Court, and published a volume of reports. He also, with Judge Duer, prepared a work on Practice. In 1850, he was elected one of the justices of the superior court of the city of New York, which office he held until his death, October 6, 1853.

Williamstown was organized September 4, 1787, and contains 23,040 acres. It lies on the height of lands between Winooski and White rivers, and the hills upon each side of Stevens branch are very high and abrupt, approaching so near each other as hardly to have space for the road between, which is here known as the Gulf road. The pass over the mountains here is 908 feet above the sea-level. The soil is well adapted to the production of grass, and offers average inducements to the labors of the farmer. The town is watered by Stevens branch, a tributary of Winooski river, and by a tributary of White river. In the south part there are some medicinal springs, known as the Williamstown springs. They lie between two high bluffs, and their location is very romantic. A beautiful house has been erected for the accommodation of those frequenting this spot. Williamstown contains two villages, pleasantly situated, known by the names of Williamstown and Mill Village; five church edifices—Congregational, Baptist, Methodist, Universalist, and Free-will Baptist; seventeen school districts, sixteen school-houses, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, seven saw-mills, one starch manufactory, one tannery, and three carriage manufactories. Population, 1,452; valuation, \$475,844.

WILLISTON, in the central part of Chittenden county, is separated from Burlington, on the west, by Muddy brook, and is thirty miles from Montpelier. It received its name in honor of Samuel Willis, to whom, with sixty-four others, it was chartered by New Hampshire, June 7, 1763. Thomas Chittenden<sup>1</sup> arrived here in May, 1774, with a large family, and was the first settler. He was joined in 1776 by Elihu Allen, Abijah Pratt, John Chamberlain, and Jonathan Spofford, who had, however, but just arrived, when the British advanced from Canada, and all the settlements in this part of the country were abandoned. John Chamberlain was attacked in his house by the Indians, and a hired man and child were killed by them. No further depredations that we have any account of were committed, and the settlers returned immediately after the war. Williston was organized March 28, 1786. It is a very good farming town. The surface is diversified, but not mountainous, and the soil is a rich loam, producing abundant crops. Winooski river washes the northern border, besides which there are some small streams on which mills have been erected, but there are only two which can be called good mill privileges. There are three villages—Williston Centre, Muddy Brook, and French Village; three church edifices—Congregational, Episcopal, and Methodist; thirteen school districts, an academy, and one post-office: also, several saw-mills, two tanneries, and two stores. The Vermont Central Railroad passes through Williston. Population, 1,669; valuation, \$438,510.

WILMINGTON, in the western part of Windham county, is 110 miles from Montpelier. Settlers arrived here prior to the Revolutionary war from Massachusetts and Connecticut; but improvements were much retarded from the fact of its having been twice chartered by New Hampshire to different proprietors; first by the name of Wilmington, and afterwards by the name of Draper. The first charter was dated April 29, 1751, and the second June 17, 1763, the latter of which, issuing to his Excellency Francis Bernard and sixty-six others, and

<sup>1</sup> Governor Chittenden was a member of the convention, which, in 1777, declared Vermont an independent state, and was active in procuring its admission into the Union. When the Vermont constitution was established in 1778, he was chosen governor, to which office he was annually reelected (with the exception of one year) till the year of his death, which event occurred August 25, 1797—having honored the highest and most responsible office of state for nineteen years, and voluntarily resigned it, receiving the most certain indications of the sincere respect and warm affection of the people for him. An address was adopted by the legislature expressive of their gratitude to him, while his tender and paternal reply was a most fit finale to his useful public career. Hon. Martin Chittenden, who was a member of congress from 1803 to 1813, and governor of this state in 1813-14, was also an inhabitant, and died here September 5, 1841.

embracing 23,040 acres, was the one which the settlers recognized. Wilmington is watered by branches of Deerfield river, and by Beaver and Cold brooks. Ray's pond, a large natural sheet of water, lies in this place. Wilmington has one incorporated village; four church edifices — Congregational, Universalist, Baptist, and Methodist; one academy, twelve school districts, and one post-office: also, one flour mill, twelve saw-mills, and an establishment for making bobbins, and hoe and broom handles. Population, 1,372; valuation, \$495,000.

WINDHAM, in the north part of Windham county, seventy-five miles from Montpelier, was formerly a part of Londonderry, from which it was set off, and, with the addition of a small gore of land called Mack's leg, was constituted a separate town, October 22, 1795. Windham was organized March 14, 1796. A part of it was annexed to Londonderry, October 21, 1797; and its present area is set down at 15,370 acres. Among the first settlers were Edward Aiken, James McCormick, and John Woodburn, some time prior to the incorporation. James, John, and Peter Aiken were prominent for some time as town officers. William Mack was also an early settler from Londonderry, N. H. William Harris, a prominent citizen, has been a member of the state senate for several years, and an associate justice of the county court, besides in long service as town clerk. Windham lies on elevated land, which is quite broken. It is watered by branches of Williams's, Saxton's, and West rivers, all flowing by different courses into the Connecticut. Some interesting specimens of minerals are found, particularly the actinolite, observed in long, slender, prismatic crystals of a greenish color imbedded in talc. There are also garnets and serpentine. Glebe mountain, also in the northwest part, rises to an altitude of about 1,800 feet. Its original heavy forest growths of spruce and hemlock have been but partly cleared off, and its steepes are valueless except for pasturage; on which account, it was devoted to the support of the ministry in town. Hence the name of the mountain. There are two villages — Windham and South Windham, with a post-office at each; two church edifices — Congregational and Baptist; and nine school districts: also, one grist-mill and four saw-mills. Population, 763; valuation, \$202,671.

WINDHAM COUNTY, in the southeast corner of the state, bounded on the east by Connecticut river, which separates it from Cheshire county, N. H., is thirty-six miles long from north to south, twenty-eight miles from east to west, and contains about 780 square miles. At the first session of the legislature of Vermont, the state was divided into two

counties, by act passed March 17, 1778. The territory upon the east side of the Green Mountains was called Unity county, which name, on the 21st of the same month, was changed to Cumberland:<sup>1</sup> and it embraced fully one half of the state, as appears by an act passed February 11, 1779, defining the boundaries of the two counties. At the extra session of the legislature in February, 1781, Windham received its present name, and was, by the formation of the counties of Windsor and Orange, reduced to nearly its present limits. Its westerly line did not then embrace Somerset. Westminster and Marlborough were constituted the half shire towns, and so continued until 1787, when Newfane alone was made the county seat; a new court-house and jail being erected at that place. The county has now twenty-three towns. The annual term of the supreme court is held in February, and the terms of the county courts in April and September.

The surface of the county is generally quite broken, while in some parts it is mountainous. Its geological features, though distinctly marked, are very irregular. Few continuous ranges can be traced with certainty. Its formation, in the western part, is uniformly the primary; in the eastern, the tertiary is found; no secondary exists. Besides the Connecticut, Williams's, Saxton's, West, and Deerfield rivers are the principal streams. There are several pleasant villages, the most important of which are Brattleborough and Bellows Falls. The eastern part of the county is traversed by the Vermont and Massachusetts, the Vermont Valley, and the Rutland and Burlington Railroads, having but a short section of each. The Sullivan Railroad also enters and departs at Bellows Falls. Population, 29,062; valuation, \$8,804,749.

WINDSOR, in the eastern part of Windsor county, fifty-five miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire to Samuel Ashley and fifty-eight others, July 6, 1761. The first permanent settlement was commenced by Captain Steele Smith, who, with his family, emigrated from Farmington, Conn., in August, 1764; and the settlement being

<sup>1</sup> Cumberland county had been erected by act of the legislature of New York, passed July 3, 1766. This act was annulled by the crown, June 26, 1767; it was reenacted by New York, February 20, 1768, and the county chartered on the 17th of March. By the charter it included all the territory between the Connecticut river and a line running northerly from the southeast corner of Stamford, in Bennington county, to the southeast corner of Socialborough (now Clarendon), in Rutland county; thence northeasterly to the south corner of Tunbridge, and along the south lines of Tunbridge, Stratford, and Thetford to the Connecticut — embracing all the present county of Windham, nearly all of Windsor, and parts of Bennington and Rutland. The original charter, elegantly written on parchment, was presented to the University of Vermont in 1840, by U. H. Penniman, and is preserved in the library.

increased the next year by the arrival of Major Elisha Hawley, Captain Israel Curtis, Hezekiah Thompson, Thomas Cooper, and some others, who immediately began improvements. Before the close of this year there were sixteen families here. Solomon Emmons and his wife <sup>1</sup> are, however, entitled to the honor of being the first persons in the place, Captain Smith finding them here on his arrival; though they had made no improvements with a view to a permanent location. Windsor was rapidly settled, and was soon organized. The population in 1771 was 203. The records appear to commence February 17, 1786, but the town must have had an earlier organization. During the controversy between New York and New Hampshire respecting the jurisdiction of this state, the proprietors deeded their lands in trust to Colonel Nathan Stone, who surrendered them to Governor Tryon of New York, by whom they were regranted to Colonel Stone, March 28, 1772. Under this charter, the public rights, which, under the old charter, were of some real value, were located in the most barren spots on Ascutney mountain, and, as a consequence, are worthless. A large majority of the inhabitants of Windsor opposed the exercise of jurisdiction on the part of New York within "the Grants," among the names of whom are often found those of the earliest settlers. Among those, however, who did not side with the majority on this matter, were Captain William Dean, and his sons Willard Dean and William Dean, Jr. As Windsor was renowned for its white pine timber, and the citizens often had the privilege of cutting such as was deemed "unfit for his Majesty's service," the Deans, under a *verbal* authority of a deputy of Governor Wentworth, the surveyor-general, felled some trees. The governor, under the pretext of punishing what was deemed by him a trespass, for cutting without written license, but in reality because their political sentiments were obnoxious, in 1769 instituted proceedings, caused their arrest, had them taken to New York for trial, and had considerable correspondence with Lieutenant-Governor Colden on this, and matters growing out of it. The Deans were subjected to much harsh treatment by the petty officials, and the affair only added to the already embittered state of feeling on the general subject. As soon as the real purpose of the governor was conjectured, the council of the province of New York dismissed the proceeding, and the Deans were liberated. In 1770 an armed mob here attempted to prevent the Cumberland county court from proceeding, on the ground that it only acted for the government of New York, whose authority they denied. By the moderation and firmness of the

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Emmons was, for a long time, the only white woman who resided here; and was, for many of her last years, supported at the public expense. She died in 1833.

judges, no serious consequences ensued, and a large number of the people of Cumberland and Gloucester counties, in a petition to the king, disavowed the act. Still, it never afterwards became easy to enforce such of the edicts of the New York government as were aimed at the subjugation of the "Green Mountain boys."

Windsor is also renowned as the place where the convention for the adoption of the state constitution was assembled on the 2d of July, 1777, and where, in spite of the appalling news that Ticonderoga had been evacuated, that instrument was ratified, and a council of safety was appointed to act during the recess. On that eventful day, when the thoughts of members turned to the defence of their homes, and many advocated a dissolution, before the business was completed a violent storm set in,—the flashing and booming of heaven's artillery seemed to inspire them with a courage not unlike that infused on the field of strife, and the work was quickly and strongly done. Another convention, called by the council of safety, was held at Windsor, December 24th of that year; the constitution was revised, and means taken to put the government in operation. The confiscation act was enforced here in 1779; and among the valuable estates that came within its operation was that of Andrew Norton. The first legislature convened here in 1778. Two sessions were held here that year, and two in 1781; fourteen sessions in all were held here from 1778 to 1804, the last year that the legislature met in Windsor.

Among the distinguished citizens of Windsor was Hon. Horace Everett, who in early life became one of the ablest and most successful jury lawyers in the state. He was a member of congress from 1829 to 1843, during which period he maintained an eminent position in that body. He died here January 30, 1851, at the age of seventy-one years. Hon. Jonathan H. Hubbard, who was also a representative in congress from the same district from 1809 to 1811, and a judge of the supreme court in 1813-14, died here September 20, 1849. Hon. Carlos Coolidge was born here in 1792; graduated at Middlebury College in 1811; commenced the practice of law here in 1814; was state's attorney for Windsor county from 1831 to 1836; member of the legislature for several years—1834-7, and 1839-42; was for two years, 1849 and 1850, governor of the state, and still resides here. Hon. Chief Justice Redfield has also been for several years a resident.

In 1814, Windsor was made into two distinct townships, which were reunited the next year. On the 26th of October, 1848, it was again divided, the west part receiving the name of West Windsor, leaving the old town with an area of 10,809 acres.

The surface is hilly, but is well watered by small streams; and the land

is fertile, nearly all of it having been taken up by settlers. Ascutney mountain, 3,320 feet high, is situated partly in this town and partly in Weathersfield. Windsor possesses a favorable position for trade, and, by the enterprise and wealth of its inhabitants, it has become one of the most flourishing towns on Connecticut river. The railroad from Boston through Windsor to the fertile and extensive country beyond it, has added much to the importance of the place. The village of Windsor is situated on elevated ground, on the bank of Connecticut river, and is compactly but somewhat irregularly built, though very beautiful. The place is tastefully adorned with trees and shrubbery, many of the dwellings are elegant, which, united with the hill prospect around, and a fine view of Ascutney mountain, render it one of the most pleasant villages in this part of the country. For the purpose of giving the village the advantages of water-power, a stone dam was constructed, in 1835, across Mill brook, which makes a reservoir of water nearly one mile in length, with a surface of one hundred acres, and an available fall of sixty feet in the distance of one third of a mile. The manufactures of Windsor are numerous and valuable. The public buildings are four houses for public worship—Congregational, Baptist, Episcopal, and Unitarian; a court-house, the state prison,<sup>1</sup> and a seminary for young ladies and gentlemen. There are two newspapers—Vermont Chronicle and Vermont Journal; seven school districts, and one post-office; the Ascutney Bank, with a capital of \$50,000: also, the Union Arms Company, manufacturing guns and machinery; manufactories of tin ware, furniture, and harness, as well as one of scythe snaths in the state prison. Population, 1,928; valuation, \$664,500.

WINDSOR COUNTY, situated between the Green Mountains and Connecticut river, contains about nine hundred square miles, and was incorporated, together with Windham and Orange, out of the old county of Cumberland, in February, 1781. But its boundaries were not quite identical with the present; for it took in Mount Holly, now in Rutland

<sup>1</sup> The original prison, built in 1808-9, of stone, was eighty-four feet long, thirty-six wide, and three stories high, and was capable of containing 170 prisoners. Adjoining this was another building of brick and stone, four stories high, for the use of the keepers and guards. These, together with a large workshop, the walls inclosing the yard, and other less important structures, cost \$39,000. A new building for solitary confinement, 112 feet long, forty wide, and four stories high, was erected in 1830-2, at a cost of \$8,000. The number of prisoners committed from the opening in 1809 up to September 1, 1858, was 1,587; number pardoned, 616; number who served out their term, 788; number of those who escaped, died, or were sent to the insane hospital, eighty-six. Thirty-five were committed during the year 1858, eighteen were pardoned, one was discharged by order of court, and seventy-eight remained in prison.

county, and did not embrace the towns of Stockbridge, Bethel, and Rochester, now in its northwest part. It now has twenty-four towns, of which Woodstock is the shire town. The annual term of the supreme court sits here in February, and the terms of the county court occur in May and December. This county also has the state prison — at Windsor. It is traversed by the Rutland and Burlington Railroad in the south part, by the Vermont Central and the Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroads in the east and north parts. It is watered by White, Quechee, and Black rivers, and by some of the tributaries of West and Williams rivers. The surface is uneven, but the soil is generally of an excellent quality, producing fine crops of grass and grain. It also contains large quantities of soapstone, quarries of which have been opened in Plymouth, Bridgewater, and Bethel: it also contains an abundance of excellent granite and limestone. There are several pleasant villages in the county, the most important of which are Windsor, Woodstock, Norwich, and Royalton. Population, 38,320; valuation, \$12,181,965.

WINHALL, in the northeastern part of Bennington county, eighty miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, September 15, 1761, to Osee Webster and sixty-one others. Nathaniel Brown, from Massachusetts, commenced the settlement during the Revolutionary war, about 1780. Recine Taylor, born July 13, 1783, was the first native. Asa Beebe, Jr. was the first representative; also, the first town clerk, and continued in office till 1821. Reuben Brooks was clerk for nineteen years, till 1852. Asa Beebe, Sen., Russel Day, and John Brooks were also, for a long time, town officers. The town was organized in March, 1796, and contains 23,040 acres. It is watered by Winhall river, which furnishes a great number of good mill privileges. It has one village — Bondville, with a post-office of the same name; three church edifices — one Methodist (occupied), and two Congregational (unoccupied); a high school, and nine school districts: also, eight saw-mills, one grist-mill, one tannery, and three chair shops. Population, 762; valuation, \$185,000.

WOLCOTT, in the eastern part of Lamoille county, twenty-two miles from Montpelier, was granted November 7, 1780, and chartered to Joshua Stanton and sixty-four others, August 22, 1781. The first efforts at settlement were made in 1788, and the town was organized March 31, 1791. Charlotte Hubbell, born in 1790, was the first native. Thomas Taylor was the first representative, in 1801, and town clerk from 1794 to 1824. Robert William Taylor was the first clerk, and Hezekiah Whitney, Thomas Taylor, and Seth Hubbell were the first selectmen. The



town is watered by the river Lamoille and several of its tributaries, among which Green river and Wild branch are the most considerable; and in the eastern part is a large natural pond, called Fish pond. There are two church edifices — Congregational and Methodist; thirteen school districts; and two post-offices — Wolcott and North Wolcott: also, one grist-mill, one starch factory, seven saw-mills, and three clap-board mills. Population, 909; valuation, \$185,697.

WOODBURY, in the northeast corner of Washington county, fifteen miles from Montpelier, was granted November 6, 1780, and chartered to Ebenezer Wood, William Lyman, and sixty-three others, August 16, 1781. The name was changed to Monroe, November 5, 1838, but the original one was restored October 31, 1843. But few settlers came in before the year 1800; in that year, the whole population amounted to twenty-three. Woodbury is watered by branches of Winooski and Lamoille rivers, and probably contains the greatest number of ponds of any town in the state. The inhabitants are for the most part engaged in the various occupations incidental to an agricultural community. The surface is rough, but the soil is good for grazing. There are twelve school districts, and one post-office: also, one grist-mill, two saw-mills, a last factory, and sash and blind factory. Population, 1,070; valuation, \$172,450.

WOODFORD, in the southerly part of Bennington county, 115 miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, March 6, 1753, to Elihu Chauncey and fifty-nine others. The settlement of the township was commenced immediately after the Revolutionary war, but, chiefly on account of its rough and mountainous character, it remains to the present day very sparsely settled. Phebe Eddy, born April 22, 1793, was the first native. The town contains 23,040 acres; and an organization, thought to have been of proprietors, was effected February 11, 1789, at which Matthew Scott was chosen clerk; but, as the first selectmen to be found on record — Elkanah Danforth, David Lyman, Jr., and Robert Hill — were chosen in 1802, it is thought the town was organized in that year. Benjamin Reed was proprietors' clerk and town clerk from 1792 to 1803. Woodford is watered principally by the head branches of the Walloomscoik, and by a branch of Deerfield river. Timber is abundant, and the manufacture of lumber forms the principal occupation of the inhabitants. There are eighteen saw-mills, one stave-mill, one planing mill, two lath mills, two manufactories of yellow ochre, and one powder-mill. There are two small places, not aspiring to the dignity of villages, each of which has a public-house, called Woodford

City and Woodford Hollow, the latter having also a store; five school districts, and one post-office. Population, 423; valuation, \$116,069.

WOODSTOCK, the shire town of Windsor county, forty-six miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, July 10, 1761, to David Page and sixty-one others, with 24,900 acres; but was also granted by New York, at a later period (February 28, 1771), to Oliver Willard and others, and a charter to that effect was issued June 3, 1772, covering 23,200 acres. There were then only forty-two inhabitants, but a town government was organized in May of the next year. By the year 1774 there were fourteen families. The first settlement, however, had been effected by James Sanderson, who moved here with his family in 1768. Others soon followed. Major Joab Hoisington, with his family, was an early settler, and was the first person who pitched in that part of the town where the village now is, which was, in early times, called the "Green." In 1776 he built a grist-mill, and soon after a saw-mill, on the south branch of Quechee river, near the spot where the county jail now stands. Previous to the erection of these, the inhabitants found the nearest grist-mill at Windsor, and sometimes had to go to Cornish, N. H. Dr. Stephen Powers, the first resident physician, removed here from Middleborough, Mass., in 1774, and erected the second log-house in the village. During the Revolutionary war, the progress of the settlement was necessarily slow. There were at this time scarcely any inhabitants in the state to the north and northwest of this town, and the settlers here were subject to frequent alarms by reports that the Indians were coming upon them, at which times they usually secreted their most valuable effects in the woods. The early settlers also suffered much by the ravages of wild beasts, and were compelled to guard their cattle and sheep during the night, or shut them up in yards and buildings prepared for the purpose. The settlement of this town came too late to give it a brilliant history in the serious conflicts of the Revolution, and in those occurring between the people of this and the neighboring province of New York.

The legislature held a session here in 1807,—the first and only one ever held in Woodstock. It was also the last of the transitory places for the meeting of that body, which, since 1808, has regularly been convened at Montpelier, the established capital of the state. Among other laws passed at that session was one for the establishment of a state prison at Windsor. In 1811–12, a prevailing epidemic was quite fatal here.

Woodstock has given birth to, and been the residence of, its full share of distinguished men. Here was cradled and reared Hiram Powers,

a man whose name has become a household word among the lovers of art—whose fame is his country's boast—who has invested the unshapen, inert mass with life—has made it to see and act and speak. His father was Stephen Powers, Jr., and his grandfather Dr. Powers,



Birthplace of Hiram Powers.

one of the first settlers.

He was born July 6, 1805, at the old homestead of the Doctor, now the most ancient in town, an accurate likeness of which is here given. His circumstances in life were not such as to invite any but a man of unquestionable genius to embark in a profession where the reward is slow, because

the public judgment is too often unappreciative, and quite often too exacting. A slight incident, probably, had no small influence in giving direction to his early discovered idea or love of form. He dreamed—and the dream was often repeated—that he saw, across the river, a female figure arrayed in white, standing upon a pillar or pedestal. This was a radiant vision which much perplexed his boyish fancy, as he had never seen, and had no idea of, a statue. These days were not unimproved; and soon his first essays on the rude marble but too certainly indicated the destiny of the man, to suffer him to be reckoned among the ordinaries of his vocation. His *chef-d'œuvre*, however, "the Greek Slave," might well leave him peerless, did he rest his hands there: but such minds place the goal forward.

Among the citizens who have passed away was Hon. Titus Hutchinson, a distinguished lawyer, who was for nine years—1825 to 1834—a judge of the supreme court, the last five of which he was chief justice. He died here August 24, 1857. Hon. Charles Marsh was born in Lebanon, Conn., and removed to this state with his father's family—graduated at Dartmouth College in 1786—studied law under the venerable Judge Reeve of Connecticut—and commenced practice in Woodstock in 1788. He was industrious and successful in his profession, and stood at the head of the Windsor county bar. He was also a member of the board of trustees of Dartmouth College for forty years, and was particularly efficient in the memorable controversy of that institution with the legislature of New

Hampshire. He represented this district in congress for one term, 1815-17; and died here January 11, 1849. Hon. George P. Marsh, now of Burlington, distinguished for his literary attainments, formerly a member of congress, and minister resident at Constantinople, was a son of Hon. Charles Marsh, and a native of this town. Another of the living men, honored by his state, is Hon. Jacob Collamer, who was born at Troy, N. Y., in 1792—removed with his father's family, while a child, to Burlington—was educated at the University of Vermont, where he graduated in 1810—served as a subaltern in the artillery, in the Vermont detached militia, during the first campaign of



Woodstock Park.

the war of 1812—was admitted to the bar, and commenced practice in 1813—in 1833 was appointed judge of the supreme court of this state, and continued on the bench until 1842, when he declined, and in 1843 was chosen representative to congress, where he served until March, 1849, at which time he was appointed postmaster-general by President Taylor. On the death of General Taylor, in 1850, Judge Collamer resigned with the other members of the cabinet; and in 1854 was elected United States senator, which place he still holds. He has received the degree of "Doctor of Laws" from Dartmouth College and the University of Vermont.

A little territory was exchanged between the northeasterly corner of Woodstock and the southwesterly corner of Hartford, November 12,

1852, and at the same time Woodstock acquired fifteen acres from the northwesterly corner of Hartland, without, however, materially affecting its form. The surface of the town is pleasantly diversified with hills and valleys, river and mountain. From lower Mount Tom, at an elevation of 542 feet, you look down upon a region of pastoral beauty, with pretty cottages, wide green meadows, grazing flocks, and highly cultivated fields. Upper Mount Tom is 650 feet above the level of the village, and 1,337 feet above tide water. The Ottâ Quechee runs through the town in a northeasterly direction, and has two considerable tributaries on the north and south sides — called Beaver and Oil Mill brooks — all affording mill sites; but by far the best sites are upon the main stream. Although the village of Woodstock is situated in a valley, and so immediately surrounded with hills as to afford no distant prospect, it is generally considered as unrivalled by any of its neighbors; and in the summer months, when its wide spreading elms, and the goodly maples of its beautiful park, are in full foliage, and its streets and walks are fresh and cleanly, few villages make a more agreeable impression. The business of a large tract of country centres here, and for the extent and variety of manufactures, and its mercantile transactions, the town ranks as one of the first in the state. The public buildings consist of a court house, jail, and five church edifices — Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist, Christian, and Universalist. There are two newspaper establishments here — “The Vermont Standard,” and “The Age,” — both of which are issued weekly; one bank with a capital of \$60,000, and one savings institution; a school, called the Green Mountain Liberal Institute, at the south village; sixteen school districts, and three post-offices — Woodstock, South Woodstock, and Taftsville: also, a large establishment for the manufacture of scythes and axes, one for making carding-machines, straw-cutters, and other articles of like description; a machine-shop, gunsmith's shop, establishments for making furniture, wooden-ware, sashes and blinds, carriages, harnesses, saddles, trunks, and leather; a woollen factory, making daily about five hundred yards of doeskins, and grain and flour-mills. Population, 3,041; valuation, \$1,382,287.

WORCESTER, in the northerly part of Washington county, ten miles from Montpelier, was chartered by New Hampshire, June 8, 1763, to Joshua Mason and sixty-four others, by the name of Worster (which name custom has superseded), and contains 23,040 acres. The first settlement was begun in 1797, by George Martin and John Ridlan, from Kennebunk, Me. The town was organized March 3, 1803, John Young being chosen town clerk. In 1808, the first representative —

James Green — was chosen. Up to 1812, there was not in any year a population of fifty. Amasa Brown moved in, that year, with a family of twelve, and, for once, brought the population up to about sixty; but after this, some enlisted in the war, and many were driven by a succession of cold seasons to seek habitations and a livelihood in a milder climate; so that, by 1816, only three families, consisting of twenty persons, remained in town. In 1820, the population was forty-four. The town having lost its organization, and no record having been kept, in March, 1821, a meeting was held, a new organization effected, and Amasa Brown was chosen town clerk; after which the increase was quite rapid.

The surface is uneven, and the elevations are somewhat abrupt, particularly near the north branch of Winooski river, which waters the town, and upon which are a number of good mill-sites. The soil is generally good, with some interval. Worcester has been noted for its healthy character, but five adult persons and twelve children having died in the course of twenty-seven years, from 1797 to 1824. It has one village, called Worcester Corner; two church edifices — Congregational and Methodist Episcopal; eleven school districts, and one post-office. Population, 702; valuation, \$141,406.

**ELECTORAL VOTE IN VERMONT FROM 1792 TO 1856; NAMES OF  
ELECTORS; AND POPULAR VOTE FROM 1828<sup>1</sup> TO 1856.**

	<b>ELECT. VOTS.</b>		<b>ELECT. VOTS.</b>
1792-3. <b>GEORGE WASHINGTON,</b> <b>JOHN ADAMS,</b> Vacancy,	8 8 1	1816-17. <b>JAMES MONROE, Pres.</b> <b>D. D. TOMPKINS, V. Pres.</b>	8 8
<i>Electors.</i> <sup>2</sup> Samuel Shattuck, Lot Hall, Lemuel Chipman, Paul Brigham.		<i>Electors.</i> Jonathan Robinson, Apollos Austin, Robert Holley, William Brayton, James Roberts, Asaph Fletcher, John H. Cotton, Isaiah Fisk.	
1798-7. <b>JOHN ADAMS,</b> <b>THOMAS PINCKNEY,</b>	4 4	1820-1. <b>JAMES MONROE, Pres.</b> <b>D. D. TOMPKINS, V. Pres.</b>	8 8
<i>Electors.</i> Elijah Dewey, Elisha Sheldon, John Bridgman, Oliver Gallop.		<i>Electors.</i> Jonas Galusha, Gilbert Denison, Pliny Smith, Aaron Leland, Timothy Stanley, William Slade, Jr., D. A. A. Buck, Ezra Butler.	
1800-1. <b>JOHN ADAMS,</b> <b>C. C. PINCKNEY,</b>	4 4	1824-5. <b>JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, Pres.</b> <b>JOHN C. CALHOUN, V. Pres.</b>	7 7
<i>Electors.</i> Elijah Dewey, Jonathan Hunt, Roswell Hopkins, William Chamberlin.		<i>Electors.</i> Jonas Galusha, Titus Hutchinson, Joseph Burr, John Mason, Jabez Proctor, Asa Aldis, Daniel Carpenter.	
1804-5. <b>THOMAS JEFFERSON, Pres.</b> <b>GEORGE CLINTON, V. Pres.</b>	6 6	1828-9. <b>JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,</b> 24,364 <b>ANDREW JACKSON,</b> 8,353 <b>RICHARD RUSH, V. Pres.</b>	7 7
<i>Electors.</i> Josiah Wright, Samuel Shaw, Ezra Butler, Nathaniel Niles, William Hunter, John Noyes.		<i>Electors.</i> Jonas Galusha, Ezra Butler, John Phelps, Apollos Austin, William Jarvis, Asa Aldis, Josiah Dana.	
1808-9. <b>JAMES MADISON, Pres.</b> <b>JOHN LANGDON, V. Pres.</b>	6 6	1832-3. <b>WILLIAM WIRT,</b> 18,106 <b>HENRY CLAY,</b> 11,152 <b>ANDREW JACKSON,</b> 7,870 <b>AMOS ELMAKER, V. Pres.</b>	7 7
<i>Electors.</i> Israel Smith, Jonas Galusha, John White, Samuel Shepardson, James Tarbox, William Cahoon.		<i>Electors.</i> Asa Aldis, James Tarbox, John S. Pettibone, Amos Thompson, William Strong, Nathan Leavenworth, Augustus Clark.	
1812-18. <b>JAMES MADISON, Pres.</b> <b>ELBRIDGE GERRY, V. Pres.</b>	8 8		
<i>Electors.</i> Nathaniel Niles, Noah Chittenden, William Slade, John H. Andrews, Elihu Luce, Josiah Wright, William A. Griswold, Mark Richards.			

<sup>1</sup> Previous to 1828, the presidential electors in Vermont were chosen by the Assembly. By a law passed in 1824, electors were required to be chosen by the people.

<sup>2</sup> From some cause, but three of these electors voted.

			ELECT. VOTE.				ELECT. VOTE.
1836-7.	WM. HENRY HARRISON,	20,996	7	1848-9.	ZACHARY TAYLOR,	23,122	6
	MARTIN VAN BUREN,	14,089			MARTIN VAN BUREN,	13,837	
	FRANCIS GRANGER, V. Pres.		7		LEWIS CASS,	10,948	
	<i>Electors.</i>				MILLARD FILLMORE, V. Pres.		6
	Jabez Proctor,				<i>Electors.</i>		
	Samuel Swift,				Erastus Fairbanks,		
	David Crawford,				Timothy Follett,		
	Zimri Howe,				George T. Hodges,		
	Titus Hutchinson,				Andrew Tracey,		
	W. A. Griswold,				Albert L. Catlin,		
	Edward Lamb.				Elijah Cleveland.		
1840-1.	WM. HENRY HARRISON,	82,440	7	1852-3.	WINFIELD SCOTT,	22,173	5
	MARTIN VAN BUREN,	18,007			FRANKLIN PIERCE,	13,044	
	JAMES G. BIRNEY,	319			JOHN P. HALE,	8,621	
	Scattering,	7			Scattering,	52	
	JOHN TYLER, V. Pres.		7		WILLIAM A. GRAHAM, V. Pres.		5
	<i>Electors.</i>				<i>Electors.</i>		
	Samuel C. Crafts,				Portus Baxter,		
	Ezra Meech,				A. P. Lyman,		
	William Henry,				E. P. Walton,		
	John Conant,				Edward Kirkland,		
	Abner B. W. Tenney,				Samuel Adams.		
	William P. Briggs,						
	Joseph Reed.						
1844-5.	HENRY CLAY,	26,770	6	1856-7.	JOHN C. FREMONT,	32,563	5
	JAMES K. POLK,	18,041			JAMES BUCHANAN,	10,577	
	JAMES G. BIRNEY,	3,954			MILLARD FILLMORE,	546	
	THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN, V.P.		6		Scattering,	75	
	<i>Electors.</i>				WILLIAM L. DAYTON, V. Pres.		5
	Jedediah H. Harris,				<i>Electors.</i>		
	John Peck,				William C. Bradley,		
	Calvin Townsley,				Lawrence Brainerd,		
	Carlos Coolidge,				George W. Strong,		
	Benjamin Swift,				Portus Baxter,		
	Erastus Fairbanks.				John Porter.		



<i>Senators.</i>					
Bradley, Stephen R.,	{ 1791—1795 1801—1813	Butler, Ezra,	1813—1815	Meacham, James,	1849—1856
Brainerd, Lawrence,	{ 1854—1855 1813—1817	Cahoon, William,	1829—1833	Meech, Ezra,	{ 1819—1821 1825—1827
Chase, Dudley,	{ 1825—1831 1797—1802	Chamberlain, Wm.,	{ 1803—1805 1809—1811	Merrill, Orsamus C.,	1817—1819
Chipman, Nathaniel,	1855—	Chipman, Daniel,	1815—1817	Miner, Ahiman L.,	1851—1853
Collamer, Jacob,	1842—1843	Chittenden, Martin,	1803—1813	Morrill, Justin S.,	{ 1855—1859 1859—
Crafts, Samuel C.,	1817—1818	Collamer, Jacob,	1843—1849	Morris, Lewis R.,	1797—1808
Fisk, James,	{ 1851—1857 1857—	Crafts, Samuel C.,	1817—1825	Niles, Nathaniel,	1791—1795
Foot, Solomon,	1795—1801	Deming, Benj. F.,	1833—1835	Noyes, John,	1815—1817
Paine, Elijah,	1818—1825	Dillingham, Paul,	1843—1847	Olin, Gideon,	1808—1807
Palmer, William A.,	1839—1851	Elliott, James,	1803—1809	Olin Henry,	1824—1825
Phelps, Samuel S.,	1831—1842	Everett, Horace,	1829—1843	Peck, Lucius B.,	1847—1851
Prentiss, Samuel,	1807—1815	Fisk, James,	{ 1805—1809 1811—1815	Rich, Charles,	{ 1813—1815 1817—1824
Robinson, Jonathan,	1791—1796	Fletcher, Isaac,	1837—1841	Richards, Mark,	1817—1821
Robinson, Moses,	1821—1833	Foot, Solomon,	1843—1847	Royce, Homer E.,	{ 1857—1859 1859—
Seymour, Horatio,	1802—1807	Hall, Hiland,	1833—1843	Sabine, Alvah,	1853—1857
Smith, Israel,	1833—1839	Hebard, William,	1849—1853	Shaw, Samuel,	1808—1813
Swift, Benjamin,	{ 1796—1797 1815—1821	Hodges, George T.,	1856—1857	Skinner, Richard,	1813—1815
Tichenor, Isaac,	1843—1853	Henry, William,	1847—1851	Slade, William,	1831—1843
Upham, William,		Hubbard, Jona. H.,	1809—1811	Smith, Israel,	{ 1791—1797 1801—1803
<i>Representatives.</i>		Hunt, Jonathan,	1827—1832	Swift, John,	1839—1841
Allen, Heman,	{ 1817—1819 1827—1828	Hunter, William,	1817—1819	Swift, Benjamin,	1829—1831
Bartlett, Thomas Jr.,	1833—1839	Jewett, Luther,	1815—1817	Strong, William,	{ 1811—1815 1819—1821
Bradley, Wm. C.,	{ 1851—1853 1813—1815	Janes, Henry F.,	1835—1837	Tracy, Andrew,	1853—1855
Buck, D. A. A.,	{ 1823—1827 1823—1825	Keyes, Elias,	1821—1823	Wales, George E.,	1825—1829
Buck, Daniel,	1795—1799	Langdon, Chauncey,	1815—1817	Walton, Ezekiel P.,	{ 1857—1859 1859—
		Lyon, Asa,	1815—1817	White, Phineas,	1821—1823
		Lyon, Matthew,	1797—1801	Witherell, James,	1807—1808
		Mallory, Rollin C.,	1819—1831	Young, Augustus,	1841—1843
		Marsh, Charles,	1815—1817		
		Marsh, George P.,	1843—1849		
		Mattocks, John,	{ 1821—1823 1825—1827		
			1841—1843		

## GOVERNORS AND GUBERNATORIAL VOTE.

1778-88. THOMAS CHITTENDEN.		1796-7. THOMAS CHITTENDEN.	
1789. MOSES ROBINSON. <sup>1</sup>		1797-8. ISAAC TICHENOR. <sup>1</sup>	
1790. THOMAS CHITTENDEN.		1798-9. ISAAC TICHENOR, Moses Robinson, Israel Smith,	6,311 2,806 333
1791-2. THOMAS CHITTENDEN.		1799- } ISAAC TICHENOR, 1800 } Israel Smith,	7,454 3,915
1792-3. THOMAS CHITTENDEN, Isaac Tichenor, Noah Smith,	8,184 2,712 174	1800-1. ISAAC TICHENOR, Israel Smith, Scattering,	6,444 3,239 880
1793-4. THOMAS CHITTENDEN, Isaac Tichenor,	2,828 2,000	1801-2. ISAAC TICHENOR (majority),	2,060
1794-5. THOMAS CHITTENDEN.		1802-3. ISAAC TICHENOR, Israel Smith, Scattering,	7,823 5,085 181
1795-6. THOMAS CHITTENDEN.		1803-4. ISAAC TICHENOR (majority),	2,186

<sup>1</sup> Chosen by the Council and General Assembly on joint ballot, the people having failed to elect a governor.

1804-5.	ISAAC TICHENOR, Moses Robinson, Scattering,	8,796 6,665 232	1823-4.	CORNELIUS P. VAN NESS, Dudley Chase, Scattering,	11,479 10,088 843
1805-6.	ISAAC TICHENOR,	8,682	1824-5.	CORNELIUS P. VAN NESS, Joel Doolittle, Scattering,	13,418 1,962 246
1806-7.	ISAAC TICHENOR, Israel Smith,	8,551 7,261	1825-6.	CORNELIUS P. VAN NESS (vote almost unanimous).	
1807-8.	ISRAEL SMITH, Isaac Tichenor, Scattering,	9,903 8,671 213	1826-7.	EZRA BUTLER, Joel Doolittle, Scattering,	8,966 3,157 2,087
1808-9.	ISAAC TICHENOR, Israel Smith, Scattering,	13,246 12,478 428	1827-8.	EZRA BUTLER, Joel Doolittle,	13,699 3,950
1809-10.	JONAS GALUSHA, Isaac Tichenor, Scattering,	14,583 13,467 498	1828-9.	SAMUEL C. CRAFTS, Joel Doolittle,	16,285 916
1810-11.	JONAS GALUSHA, Isaac Tichenor, Scattering,	13,810 9,618 361	1829-30.	SAMUEL C. CRAFTS, Heman Allen, Joel Doolittle, Scattering,	14,325 7,246 3,973 50
1811-12.	JONAS GALUSHA, Martin Chittenden, Scattering,	13,828 11,214 558	1830-1.	SAMUEL C. CRAFTS, William A. Palmer, Ezra Meech,	13,476 10,923 6,285
1812-13.	JONAS GALUSHA, Martin Chittenden, Scattering,	19,158 15,950 644	1831-2.	WILLIAM A. PALMER, <sup>1</sup> Heman Allen, Ezra Meech,	15,258 12,999 6,168
1813-14.	JONAS GALUSHA, MARTIN CHITTENDEN, <sup>1</sup> Scattering,	16,828 16,532 605	1832-3.	WILLIAM A. PALMER, <sup>1</sup> Samuel C. Crafts, Ezra Meech,	17,318 15,499 8,210
1814-15.	MARTIN CHITTENDEN, Jonas Galusha, Scattering,	17,466 17,411 230	1833-4.	WILLIAM A. PALMER, Ezra Meech, Horatio Seymour, Scattering,	20,565 15,683 1,765 892
1815-16.	JONAS GALUSHA, Martin Chittenden, Scattering,	18,055 16,632 571	1834-5.	WILLIAM A. PALMER, <sup>1</sup> William C. Bradley, Horatio Seymour, Scattering,	17,131 10,385 10,159 84
1816-17.	JONAS GALUSHA, William Strong, Scattering,	17,282 13,838 102	1835-6.	William A. Palmer, <sup>2</sup> William C. Bradley, Charles Paine, Scattering,	16,210 13,254 5,436 54
1817-18.	JONAS GALUSHA, Isaac Tichenor,	13,756 7,430	1836-7.	SILAS H. JENISON, William C. Bradley, Scattering,	20,471 16,124 85
1818-19.	JONAS GALUSHA, Scattering,	15,243 749	1837-8.	SILAS H. JENISON, William C. Bradley, Scattering,	22,260 17,730 8
1819-20.	JONAS GALUSHA, William C. Bradley, Scattering,	12,628 1,053 1,811	1838-9.	SILAS H. JENISON, William C. Bradley, Scattering,	24,738 19,194 37
1820-1.	RICHARD SKINNER, Scattering,	13,152 984	1839-40.	SILAS H. JENISON, Nathan Smilie, Scattering,	24,611 22,257 84
1821-2.	RICHARD SKINNER,				
1822-3.	RICHARD SKINNER, Scattering,	11,520 167			

<sup>1</sup> Chosen on the joint ballot of the Council and Assembly, the people having failed to elect a governor.

<sup>2</sup> No choice of governor being made either by the people or the legislature, the lieutenant-governor (Silas H. Jenison), who had been elected by the people, became acting governor.

1840-1.	SILAS H. JENISON, Paul Dillingham, Scattering,	33,435 22,637 44	1850-1.	CHARLES K. WILLIAMS, Timothy P. Redfield, John S. Robinson, Scattering,	23,676 14,960 6,688 43
1841-2.	CHARLES PAINE, <sup>1</sup> Nathan Smilie, Titus Hutchinson, Scattering,	23,353 21,302 3,039 284	1851-2.	CHARLES K. WILLIAMS, Timothy P. Redfield, John S. Robinson, Scattering,	23,119 15,035 6,807 43
1842-3.	CHARLES PAINE, Nathan Smilie, Charles K. Williams, Scattering,	27,168 24,141 2,093 36	1852-3.	ERASTUS FAIRBANKS, <sup>1</sup> John S. Robinson, Lawrence Brainerd, Scattering,	23,795 14,938 9,445 20
1843-4.	JOHN MATTOCKS, <sup>1</sup> Daniel Kellogg, Charles K. Williams, Scattering,	24,405 21,982 3,766 21	1853-4.	Erastus Fairbanks, John S. ROBINSON, <sup>1</sup> Lawrence Brainerd, Scattering,	20,849 18,142 8,291 183
1844-5.	WILLIAM SLADE, Daniel Kellogg, William R. Shafter, Scattering,	23,265 21,187 5,618 84	1854-5.	STEPHEN ROYCE, Merrit Clark, Lawrence Brainerd, Horatio Needham, W. C. Kittredge, Scattering,	27,926 15,084 619 302 293 543
1845-6.	WILLIAM SLADE, <sup>1</sup> Daniel Kellogg, William R. Shafter, Scattering,	22,770 18,594 6,584 363	1855-6.	STEPHEN ROYCE, Merrit Clark, James M. Slade, William R. Shafter, Scattering,	25,699 12,800 3,631 1,308 182
1846-7.	HORACE EATON, <sup>1</sup> John Smith, Lawrence Brainerd, Scattering,	23,933 17,877 7,118 64	1856-7.	RYLAND FLETCHER, Henry Keyes, Scattering,	34,062 11,661 270
1847-8.	HORACE EATON, <sup>1</sup> Paul Dillingham, jr., Lawrence Brainerd, Scattering,	22,441 18,852 6,920 98	1857-8.	RYLAND FLETCHER, Henry Keyes, Scattering,	26,719 12,859 262
1848-9.	CARLOS COOLIDGE, <sup>1</sup> Oscar L. Shafter, Paul Dillingham, jr., Scattering,	22,007 13,430 14,931 47	1858-9.	HILAND HALL, Henry Keyes, William K. Shafter, Scattering,	29,660 18,338 162 22
1849-50.	CARLOS COOLIDGE, <sup>1</sup> Horatio Needham, Jonas Clark, Scattering,	26,288 23,260 3,357 26	1859-60.	HILAND HALL, John G. Saxe, Scattering,	31,045 14,328 17

<sup>1</sup> Chosen in convention of the Senate and House of Representatives, the people having failed to elect a governor.

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